FINE ATTA CONTINUE

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contents

every issue does not necessarily contain all these contents, but they are the regular features which continually recur.

| | EWS | and | COMMENT |
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Diary News Astragal's Notes and Topics Letters Societies and Institutions

TECHNICAL SECTION

Information Sheets Information Centre Current Technique Questions and Answers Prices The Industry PHYSICAL PLANNING SUPPLEMENT CURRENT BUILDINGS STATISTICS HOUSING Architectural Appointments Wanted and Vacant No. 3018] [VOL. 117 THE ARCHITECTURAL PRESS 9, 11 and 13, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.I. 'Phone : Whitehall 0611 Price 1s. od.

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ARCHIT F \star A glossary of abbreviations of Government Departments and Societies and Committees of all kinds, together with their full address and telephone numbers. The glossary is published in two parts—A to Ie one week, Ig to Z the next. In all cases where the town is not mentioned the word LONDON is implicit in the address. Architectural Association, 34/6, Bedford Square, W.C.1. Association of Art Institutions. Secy.: W. Marlborough Whitehead, "Dyneley," Castle Hill Avenue, Berkhampstead, Herts. Architects' Benevolent Society. 66, Portland Place, W.1. Association of Building Technicians. 5, Ashley Place, S.W.1. Automic Development Association. 33, Grosen or Street With Marfair 7501/8 AA AAI ABS ABT ACGB Aluminium Development Association. 33, Grosvenor Street, W.1. Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction. 34, Gordon Square, W.C.1. ADA APRR Mayfair 7501/8 Architectural Students' Association. 34/36, Bedford Square, W.C.1. Architects' Registration Council. 68, Portland Place, W.1. Association of Scientific Workers. 15, Half Moon Street, Piccadilly, W.1. Grosvenor 4761 ArchSA ARCUK AScW Board of Architectural Education. 66, Portland Place, W.1. Building Apprenticeship and Training Council. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1. Reliance 7611, Ext. 1706 Building Centre. 26, Store Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1. Museum 5400 BAE BATC Reliance 7611, Ext. 1706 Building Centre. 26, Store Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1. Museum 5400 British Colour Council. 13, Portman Square, W.1. British Cast Concrete Federation. 17, Amherst Road, Ealing, W.13. British Cast Iron Research Association. Alvechurch, Birmingham. British Door Association. 10, The Boltons, S.W.10. British Electrical Development Association. 2, Savoy Hill, W.C.2. British Ironfounders' Association. 145, Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2. BC BCC BCCF BCIRA BDA BEDA BIA Glasgow Central 2891 BIAE British Institute of Adult Education. 29, Tavistock Square, W.C.1. Building Industries Distributors. 52, High Holborn, W.C.1. Building Industries National Council. 11, Weymouth Street, W.1. Euston 5385 RID Chancery 7772 Langham 2785 BINC BOT Board of Trade. Millbank, S.W.1. Whitehall 5140 BRDB British Rubber Development Board. Market Buildings, Mark Lane, E.C.3. Mansion House 9383 Garston 2246 BRS Building Research Station. Bucknalls Lane, Watford. Garston 2246 Building Societies Association. 14, Park Street, W.I. Mayfair 0515 British Standards Institution. 28, Victoria Street, S.W.I. Mayfair 0515 Building Trades Exhibition. 4, Vernon Place, W.C.I. Holborn 8146/7 City and Borough Architects Society. C/o Johnson Blackett, F.R.I.B.A., Civic Centre, Newport, Mon. Newport 5491 County Architects' Society. C/o F. R. Steele, F.R.I.B.A., County Hall, Chichester. Sloane 5255 County Architects' Society. C/o F. R. Steele, F.R.I.B.A., County Hall, Chichester. Sloane 5255 Council for Codes of Practice. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.I. Sloane 5255 Council for Codes of Practice. Enabeth Bridge House, S.E.I. Reliance 7611 Copper Development Association. Kendals Hall, Radlett, Herts. Radlett 5616 Council for Industrial Design. Tilbury House, Petty France, S.W.I. Abbey 7080 Council for Visual Education. 13, Suffolk Street, Haymarket, S.W.1. Sloane 9116 Council for Visual Education. 13, Suffolk Street, Haymarket, S.W.1. Reading 72255 Directorate General of Works, Ministry of Works, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1. Sloane 9126 Building Research Station. Bucknalls Lane, Watford. BSA RSI BTE CABAS CAS CCA CCP CDA CIAM COID CPRE CUC **CVE** DGW Directorate General of Works, Ministry of Works, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1. Reliance 7611 DIA Design and Industries Association. 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. Whi Department of Overseas Trade. Horseguards Avenue, Whitehall, S.W.1 Whitehall 0540 DPT Trafalgar 8855 English Joinery Manufacturers' Association (Incorporated). Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Regen English Place-Name Society. 7, Selwyn Gardens, Cambridge. EIMA Regent 4448 EPNS FAS Faculty of Architects and Surveyors. 8, Buckingham Palace Gdns, S.W.1. Sloane 2837 FASSC Federation of Association of Specialists and Sub-Contractors, 5, Arundel Street, Strand. Temple Bar 6633 Federation of British Industries. 21, Tothill Street, S.W.1. Whitehall 6711 FBI Federation of British Industries. 21, 10thill Street, S.W.1. Whitehall 6/11 Forestry Commission. 25, Savile Row, W.1. Federation of Coated Macadam Industries. 37, Chester Square, S.W.1. Sloane 1002 The Flush Door Manufacturers Association Ltd. Trowell, Nottingham. Ilkeston 623 Friends of the Lake District. Pennington House, nr. Ulverston, Lancs. FC FCMI FDMA FLD

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announced that they proposed them-

selves to put up a building for Unesco

on the Ecole Militaire site (which Unesco had previously rejected) with

the promise that it would be in the



PARIS STOP-PRESS

The wrangling over the Unesco building in Paris has gone on so long and become so destructive of the dignity of architecture that we must all be relieved that it has at last been brought to an end; and—what is more—with a far happier outcome than seemed possible a few weeks ago.

The last time I mentioned it was after the Prefecture of the Seine had refused to approve the Breuer-Zehrfuss-Nervi design for the Bois de Boulogne site on the ground that an uncompromisingly modern building would be an affront to Paris, and the French Government had, in consequence, withdrawn their offer of this site and

tions except for height. Unesco have accepted the offer and have reappointed the same advisory panel (Gropius, Markelius, Costa, Rogers and Le Corbusier) and the same architects. Breuer, Zehrfuss and Nervi have till April to produce a new design for the new site.

So an important modern building is likely to go up after all quite close to the centre of Paris. Readers who know their Paris well will recall that although on paper the site looks like part of the formal Gabriel layout, in practice, owing to the size of the Place de Fontenoy and the trees that fill it, it does not read as a whole and nothing will be lost by not striving after symmetry of plan or conformity of style.

ASTRAGAL sends his best wishes to Breuer and Co. for better luck this time; at least they will be free from further obstruction by the conservative gentlemen at the Prefecture of the Seine because the new site, being govern-

ment land, is exempt from their authority.

CORB TRIUMPHANT

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 1, 1953 [1]

The one man for whom the Unesco story is a tragedy (apart from Beaudouin, who had the job and then lost it) is Le Corbusier, whom many people thought should have been appointed architect in the first place, including Torres Bodet, then Unesco's directorgeneral. I hope the outcome of the ludicrous lawsuit about his Marseilles building, which has lately caused so much amusement in the French Press, will be some consolation to him.

You may have read how it began;* the Société pour l'Esthétique de la France brought an action against Le Corbusier, claiming 20 million francs damages, on the ground that his Marseilles flats were "contrary to the French style and æsthetic." They also criticized the planning and justified their action by saying that the building had been put up without all the necessary planning consents being obtained.

It was thus an attack on Le Corbusier's patron, Claudius-Petit, Minister of Reconstruction, as well as on Le Corbusier himself. The Minister from the first took a personal interest in the Marseilles project, and was in fact responsible for pushing it through. While the lawsuit was pending the flats were opened officially and the Government gave an indication of their support of Le Corbusier by choosing that moment to make him a Commander of the Legion of Honour. The case was

* AJ, December 11.



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heard on December 14, and the *Société* not only lost but had to pay all the costs.

At the same time Le Corbusier was vindicated in other and more farreaching ways. When the Marseilles flats were opened in October they received a great deal of attention in the French press and Le Figaro went so far as to send a correspondent, Georges Le Fèvre, to Marseilles to live in one of the flats for a time and report his experiences. Le Figaro gave great prominence to his articles, which were enthusiastically in favour, saying that all Le Corbusier's theories had justified themselves in practice. Le Fèvre interviewed all the tenants and could find nothing but praise for the building. The only criticism came from one man who said the aperture of the letter-boxes was too narrow for large envelopes.

The Figaro correspondent also went into the financial side and reported that there seemed a good chance that the building would prove an economic proposition; that is, that the rents it earned would enable it to pay its way without heavy Government subsidies. On the strength of this Le Corbusier has now been approached by two other cities with the idea that he should build similar Unités d'Habitation for them: Lille and Nantes.

THE CORE

Everyone, whether they attended the 1951 CIAM Conference at Hoddesdon or not, should be interested in its report *The Heart of the City*, edited by J. Tyrwhitt, J. L. Sert and E. N. Rogers.* This book is, as the blurb says, "lively . . . and yet learned." With contributions from Le Corbusier, Gropius, Giedion, Sert, Holford and many others, it could hardly fail. "Lively," too, in this context, also of course means "controversial."

For the town-planning ideals of CIAM the reader must be referred to Corb's foreword, and to the mass of illustrated material—from Priene to Chimbote—which gives the book its main interest and which makes it such extraordinarily good value for money. Nevertheless, *The Heart of the City*

• "The Heart of the City " (Lund Humphries. £2 10s. 0d.).



This design for a "helidrome" at Charing Cross by Aslan and Freeman embodies revisions of an earlier scheme. The revisions incorporate modifications suggested by the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

does—in ASTRAGAL'S mind at any rate—raise one or two questions. To discuss the "Heart" or "Core" was superficially a good idea—the excess of emphasis on suburbia and housing being a current vice; but should the "Core," whether small market or vast "Place" be considered as divorced from wider aspects of planning?

Another, and more serious, question: CIAM did, one must admit, put modern architecture "on the map." We must always be grateful to it for that, especially to MARS, its English group, and ASCORAL, its French group. But, to be blunt, has CIAM got anything more to say? Not that the battle is won-not by a long chalk -but can CIAM sustain it in this new age? In spite of student attendances at Bergamo and Hoddesdon, is not CIAM becoming, just ever so slightly, an old boys' club? For example, in this book one could well dispense with the "Tatler-ish" groups of the prima donnas; they are as boring as all such groups, whether at Charity Balls, Point-to-points or the Annual Conferences of bodies less progressive than CIAM. Admittedly this kind of thing occupies only a couple of pages, but it is, isn't it-in a serious book on planning-just ever so slightly, well . . . foolish?

HOME FROM ROME

It might be more sensible if architectural schools did a tropical type of

building rather than the London type of building in their last year, since most British architects seem to be doing work anywhere but in Britain and mostly within twelve degrees of latitude either side of the Equator. It would appear almost as easy nowadays, and far more comfortable, for an architect to visit a job thousands of miles away, as it was for a 19th century architect to visit a job in the north of England. ASTRAGAL had tea with one of his spies the other day who had lunched in Rome, where he stopped for a few days on his way back from the tropics. He had flown back by Comet.

My spy was most impressed by the vast building activity apparent from the air at London airport (Rome airport, which has also been under construction for three years, shows little progress). He reported his surprise at the cleanliness of Rome's streets compared with those in London-this was his first visit to the city-and his admiration for the brilliance of the city's floodlighting-particularly of the fountains. With the exception of the new railway terminus he saw no outstanding large new buildings, though numerous excellent shops. He was also impressed by Mckim Meade and White's skilful understanding and use of the Roman scale in their planning of the American Academy on the Janiculum, near S. Pieto in Montorio,



Holland House

It is good news that the LCC proposes to spend £15,000 to preserve part of the ruins of Holland House, Kensington. This may seem a small sum, but the war damage to the building was so severe that any real restoration is impossible. The money allocated for repairs will be spent on the fabric of the arcades (one of which frames this picture), on the centre piece of the south front—seen in the middle of the frame, and on the ground floor of the east wing. It is to be hoped that the LCC will subsequently grant other sums of money for the preservation of this historical building.

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 1, 1953 [5

where stands Bramante's tiny tempietto on the site of the crucifixion of St. Peter.

KENSINGTON COMPLAINTS

It is rumoured that LCC Flats are marching upon their painted piloti to threaten the mansions of Addison Road, and that the shadows of vertical living are to fall-at a correctly calculated angle of course-across the lawns even of that celebrated monument the Debenham House, designed by Halsey Ricardo with what he called "the reasonable aim of building with imperishable materials in London." [How confident. how comforting such words seem today.] Accordingly, this very remarkable and polychromatic house was faced externally with vitrified bricks, glazed terra-cotta, and looks today as glossy and cheerful as it did on the day it was built. It is well worth going to see.

Mr. Conran might turn up his nose at the warped decadence of the interiors, which include De Morgan tiles, Prior glass and Grimson ceilings, and certainly the inlaid design of pansies and moths in the library make me slightly queasy [moths, you see, signify midnight oil, pansy (or pensée) stands—steady now —for thought—see?], but it is certainly one of the most extraordinary buildings in London, almost an architectural milestone, and it is to be hoped that County Hall will treat it with respect.

NEW BOYS MAKE GOOD

The Truro Branch of the Devon and Cornwall Society has been going for no more than three years, and appears from its official list to have only 68 members plus 18 students. Yet they have produced a year book and journal of proceedings—a hundred and forty pages or so—which would do credit to a large regional organization.

Apart from the records of meetings there are articles on buildings put up, on design, on what the architect does to earn his fees—the latter very useful for showing to clients—plus a lot of general technical information very clearly set out. ASTRAGAL has a fairly shrewd idea of the amount of effort involved in producing a job like this: his congratulations to those (all apparently honorary) who have done the work.

ASTRAGAL

POINTS FROM THIS ISSUE

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The Editors

THE SMALL HOUSE AND "SPEC." BUILDING

THE decision to grant licences automatically for the building of small private houses is likely to draw still more attention to the disparity between building costs and rents. Unless this disparity is reduced the result of the

new freedom, in terms of building, may be *nil* or unpleasant. We may take it that the Government's main intention is to encourage those who are willing and able to pay for their own houses to do so, and thus to end a state of affairs by which

own houses to do so, and thus to end a state of affairs by which many people in this category are compelled to wait until their local authority can offer them the tenancy of a highly subsidised house.

We believe that a decently built 1,000-sq. ft. house is going to cost the 1953 building owner $f_{2,000}$ by the time he has moved in. Of this he will have had to pay at least $f_{.500}$ in cash. Many people may be able to get over this first hurdle but will pause for a long time when they realise that their other commitments for mortgage interest and redemption, rates, etc., will come to f_3 10s. a week (or a little more) for 20 years ; and may well increase. Up to 1939 a man would not have thought himself hardly used if called on to pay between a quarter and a fifth of his net income to house himself on hire-purchase terms. Things are different now. A prudent prospective house-owner is bound to contrast his future outgoings of f_{13} 10s. a week with the f_{11} or f_{11} 10s. paid by local authority tenants and many of those who pay controlled rents; and unless his present accommodation is unbearable he is likely to decide that he can't afford the difference.

Does this matter to the architect, who, after all, usually complains that he cannot afford to design private houses? Not, perhaps, to the established architect ; but to the young up-and-coming entrant to the profession the chance of designing a house is welcomed for its prestige value. And we suspect that there will be little work of this kind for him unless prices fall considerably, the general level of rent is raised (so that the purchaser of a new house is not so far out of step with local authority tenants) or standards are lowered drastically.

The danger of a lowering of standards seems very great now that the builder has been given freedom to sell to anyone and to build twelve houses at a time. Even with his new freedom the builder is still in a tight jacket. He is tied to size, to rates of pay and, if the rules are obeyed, to price. How can he hope to create a large demand? The unpleasant logical UNO answer is that he will reduce size below that of the People's House, or reduce quality, or both.

How are we to prevent the return of the worst type of prewar "spec." building. Obviously, the planning officers who have to approve the siting and appearance of buildings will help to suppress the most blatantly bad designing. But we cannot be sure that they will possess the high standard of judgment needed for their work. Is it not time the profession insisted that all planning officers should be qualified architects? Let us go even further than that. We should demand that if builders do not employ architects to design their groups of houses, they should make use of the house plans which the Government has circulated to local authorities.



Stephen Gardiner, A.R.I.B.A.

High Paddington

SIR,—Professor Pevsner takes exception to my letter about the High Paddington project on three points.

on three points. (1) He seems to think that I imply that it is possible to criticise a design for a certain site because it is not a design for a different site. I agree that this would indeed be ludicrous. But Professor Pevsner has mis-understood me. My point was an entirely different one, namely, that the Paddington design is not suited to the site chosen. I am certainly not saying that the architects ought to have designed a building for Putney and not for Paddington: I was however suggesting that the design they have pro-duced would be more appropriate to Putney duced would be more appropriate to Putney than to Paddington and gave my reasons. It is obviously open to anybody to disagree with my view, but it seems to me to be at any rate a discussible one, and not "just stupid."

(2) I do not see why Professor Pevsner tectural importance interest nobody beside myself and my unspecified friends. There seems to be a trend in architecture today towards using façade patterns for their own sake and since they often interfere with in-ternal arrangements they require at least an asthetic justification which in my opinion is lacking in the Paddington project

(3) With regard to the question of a "serious allegation", I would point out that the photograph I mentioned was of an aerial shot of Paddington with presumably a photo-graph of the model superimposed upon it.

I used the word "faked" in the sense (recognised as established English usage by Cassell's dictionary) of "contrived," without any pejorative implication and merely in order to indicate the nature of the photo-graph. After all, the flats have not been built yet.

STEPHEN GARDINER.

Secretariat Architect Interviewed in London

In London for a brief visit recently (mainly to see the Royal Festival Hall) was Harmon Goldstone, one of Wallace K. Harrison's chief assistants on the design of the UNO secretariat building. Mr. Gold-stone told a JOURNAL representative that he stone told a JOURNAL representative that he had been primarily concerned with the pro-gramme for the UNO building; not, how-ever, in the "programming and progres-sing" sense of the word. The programme Mr. Goldstone had been responsible for was schedule of accommodation requirethe ments, and drawing up this had, he said, kept him busy for two years before detailed planning could start.

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The UN authorities had been uncertain of their own requirements and been uncertain of their own requirements and had appar-ently been happy to let Mr. Goldstone calculate not only their present space needs but also their needs for future expansion, Mr. Goldstone had tried to cater for estimated expansion of individual departments in such a way that "if an additional man is taken on it should not be necessary for everyone from the Secretary-General down to have to move around."

to have to move around." In one sense, at least, the design of the UN buildings was unique—being on inter-national territory the architects had not had to comply with any building regulations. "Nevertheless," said Mr. Goldstone, "New York regulations are pretty good and we did very little that these regulations would not have permitted." Much had been learnt from the UN build-

have permitted." Much had been learnt from the UN build-ing, and Mr. Goldstone said that American clients were at last appreciating the advan-tages of shallow office blocks. The UN building was 74 feet deep, Lever House 53 feet, and Harrison's office had just designed a twelve-storey office block only 48 feet deep (6 feet for the corridor and 2 feet for the walls leaving two 20 foot offices so that (6 feet for the corridor and 2 feet for the walls, leaving two 20 foot offices, so that no artificial lighting was required during the day). For this building forty different schemes of various heights and depths had been tried. The cost of additional lifts had made high buildings uneconomical; on the other hand, deep buildings did not bring in more rent, because well-lit offices fetched higher rents. Hence, on this particular site, a very small building by American standards would, in fact, show the highest return for the investment. the investment. The JOURNAL representative showed Mr.

Goldstone the somewhat critical comments on the General Assembly building which ap-peared in the JOURNAL for November 27. 952. Mr. Goldstone said he was very pleased to see the critical approach of British archi-tectural papers "... something," he said, "which cannot be found in any American architectural paper." He felt, however, that it was very difficult to judge a building from not been directly concerned with the design either of the secretariat building or the General Assembly, in his opinion Mr. Harri-son had succeeded in achieving an intimate atmosphere in what had to be a very large space.

OBITUARY

Robert Atkinson

We regret to announce that Robert Atkinson, O.B.E., M.A.(ARCH.), F.R.I.B.A., died last week. He was 69. His better known work includes the Barber Institute of Fine Art, Birmingham; the Canadian Red Cross Mem-Birmingnam; the Canadian Red Cross Mem-orial Hospital. Taplow, and the Stockleigh Hall flats, Regents Park. His more recent work includes the Colman Galleries, Nor-wich, and a large flat scheme at Gibraltar.

RIBA " Review Contracting Arrangements" Asks

NEV

Minister

Chelsea.

A letter to the President of the RIBA from the Minister of Works, David Eccles, in which he says "the time has come for the industry . . . under the leadership of the Industry . . . under the leadership of the architects, to take more active steps to reduce costs and review contracting arrangements," was published recently. together with the President's reply to the Minister. Remarking, in his letter, that "during the past months there has been a marked improvement in the output of building," David

Eccles goes on to suggest that the recent controversy over restrictive practices and contracting methods constitute "a challenge and an opportunity."

"With the assurance of plenty of work to come," Mr. Eccles's letter continues, " there is every reason for developing contracting arrangements which on the one hand will encourage the proper pre-planning and orga-nisation of the work, and on the other will ensure a proper measure of healthy competition.

Mr. Eccles concludes his letter by assuring the President of the RIBA of the support of the Government in the steps the RIBA is to take.

Howard Robertson, in his reply to the Minister, said that the RIBA would be "very happy to take the lead in this im-portant matter" and that he was most grate-ful for the encouragement and support ex-pressed in the Minister's letter.

Landscape Lecture

On January 6, at 6 p.m., Peter Shepheard will give a talk on *Landscape and Archi-tecture* at the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. On this occasion there will be an announce-ment of awards of prizes and studentships.



As we expected, the criticisms and proposals which we have made in our articles have created widespread interest and not a little controversy—controversy, by the way, generally of a constructive nature, which we regard as useful and valuable in the profession today. Comments, too, have been received in letters from a number of official and unofficial sources, and to these we now turn our attention.

The Guest Editors

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ANSWERS TO LETTERS

From the Parliamentary Secretary, MOHLG

T would not be proper for me to contribute an article or enter into discussion upon this subject. Perhaps I may say that I do con-sider that this type of discussion in technical journals is a most valuable means of stimulating thought on difficult issues, and of crystallizing points on which decisions may be required and even suggesting solutions. Ministers and Government Departments are always pleased to see such studies undertaken and are interested in the results, but their attitude must of necessity be rather one of informed observers if they are not to be accused of taking We do, of course, very often sides. seek and find the answers to some of our problems in the criticisms and suggestions of the press and professional bodies, but I think you will agree that to take part in the type of discussion on controversial issues, such as the matter of building controls, and the organization of architectural staffs in public offices, is extremely difficult where specific responsibilities for final action or approval rests on Her Majesty's Government.

Nevertheless, I hope that although I do not feel able to take part in discussion of this kind you will continue to draw my attention to articles appearing in your JOURNAL which you think would be of interest to me. I do assure you that I have, and will continue to have, a very great respect for the views of those who contribute.

Ernest Marples

Reply from Guest Editors

Thank you, Mr. Marples. We have tried to discuss a number of the most difficult issues facing our profession, and hope that we have, at least, succeeded in stimulating thought among our contemporaries.

From the Establishment and Organization Division, MOHLG

The Director of Establishments has asked me to thank you for your letter of August 29 enclosing a reprint of your recent article on the organization of architectural staffs in public offices. We have read this article with interest and are glad to have it for record purposes. We have no comment on the form of

organization suggested by your Guest Editors.

F. J. Ward

Reply from Guest Editors

We hope this is not symptomatic of the general attitude in the Ministry towards architectural and other technical matters. It is, however, typical of a certain kind of administrative thinking and contrasts with the attitude of some, at least, of their political masters.

From the Department of Health for Scotland

The subject of building controls is constantly under review, and in relation to local authority building we have had the benefit of the reports from the Scottish Local Government Manpower Committee, whose terms of reference were to examine the possibility of

relaxing departmental supervision of local authority activities and delegating more responsibility to local authorities. Many of the views outlined by your guest editors coincide with recommendations put forward by the Manpower Committee and have already been adopted by the Department.

Apart from this, we are at present reviewing the system of local building byelaws.

We are in agreement with the suggestion that the architects of the Central Department should encourage experimental and demonstration building, and you will know what has already been done by the two Housing Departments in the design and building of demonstration "space-saving" houses. I may say that the whole series of

I may say that the whole series of articles by your guest editors is being followed with close interest by our technical people and I have asked them to keep me informed about any points which may have a bearing on our work.

Craig Mitchell

Reply from Guest Editors

We do not think we need to comment on this letter which speaks for itself as a progressive and constructive attitude on the part of a Central Government body.

From the MOW

The system of group working described in the article to which you refer is, and has been for a good number of years, broadly the system of organization in the Architects' Division of this Ministry. The Chief Architect is assisted directly by four Assistant Chief Architects under whom the whole of the architectural services carried out by the Ministry are grouped.

Each of these Assistant Chief Architects has a staff of Architects working under his direction and the salaries paid to the holders of these four posts are higher than those you quote in your article.

The Chief Architect has an overall responsibility for design, standards, planning and policy in architectural matters. In all aspects of his work he is in close consultation with his Assistant Chief Architects, and they in turn control the activities of the group of Architects under their control.

The numbers of staff employed in the Chief Architect's Division of the Directorate General of Works of this Ministry at the current date are as follows:—*Professional Grades*: Chief architect, 1: Assistant chief architects, 4; Superintending architects, 10; Senior architects, 48; Architects, 61: Assistant architects, 66. Total, 190. *Drawing Office Grades*: Senior architectural assistants, 46; Leading architectural assistants, 131; Architectural assistants, 205; Drawing office assistants and tracers, 8. Total, 390. Total employed in both grades, 580.

W. S. A. Winter, Assistant Secretary

Reply from Guest Editors

It is difficult from this letter to see where responsibility lies. The crux of the problem is where the team leader fits in, and we would welcome further information on this, as the definition of group working is evidently not the same as ours. It will be remembered that our group leader was to be in charge of about 10 qualified architects only.

From the IRA

There is a great deal in the Guest Editors' article on this subject which merits support. Their approach to a new conception of organization for public offices is bold and attractive—it savours of private organization; at the same time, it seems important to have a clear picture of what the reorganization is intended to achieve.

Is it, for example, primarily intended to (a) raise the standard of public architecture? (b) Improve the status and, thereby, the remuneration of qualified architects employed by public offices of all kinds? (c) Attract experienced architects from private practice to public employment by widening the avenues of responsibility and promotion? (d) Be more economical of public funds?

It may be difficult to succeed in all these objectives and the system should be left flexible enough to allow for modifications. The editors are probably optimistic in saying that the total salaries bill may be less than at present, assuming that all qualified architects are proportionately improved accorded status and remuneration. Certainly, the columns of the JOURNAL have testified to the urgent need for such improvement, but whether this particular object is served is of secondary importance to the profession qua profession : employing authorities will not be backward in expressing their opinion on that score. What is really important is that projects will be more economically run if the group leaders do their jobs properly and are encouraged to display their individual ability and given full responsibility for schemes in the same way as they would if they were private practising architects.

The point that the chief architect should not look on himself as the one and only architect, employing senior and junior assistants, is well made. Ever since the large public office-that " comparatively new phenomenon "---became a familiar feature of the professional landscape, far-seeing architects have been haunted by the nightmare of seventy per cent. of the architects on the statutory register being employed by public authorities of various kinds with sixty-nine per cent. of their number relegated to the status of " architectural assistants"-a far from inspiring picture.

To prevent this state of affairs, it seems essential that creative architecture

should be encouraged from every member of the group, not from the leader only, otherwise much of the attractiveness of the promotional ladder will be lost—in spirit if not in fact. Herein may lie one of the practical difficulties: the reconciliation of the creative ideas of the group by the leader who must be a co-ordinator rather than an autocrat.

The proposals outlined by the Guest Editors go a long way towards solving some of the human problems: they would tend to lighten the atmosphere of frustration which surrounds many publicly-employed architects at the present time. If the right type of group leader were found in sufficient numbers they would kindle a vital spark into a flame of creative effort with, perhaps, really surprising results, but all the proposals are founded on an assumption which itself calls for objective examination-that this new phenomenon, the large public office, is a permanent feature either in its present or further extended form.

It is possible to agree that "nearly all the architectural problems facing us are such that they cannot be solved by the solitary artistic genius: the job is one for collaboration . . ." and still wonder whether public architecture provides the best means of inducing the necessary collaboration and "synthesis of many brains and imaginations."

Is it not possible that artistic genius, both solitary and collective, brains and imagination, might flower more successfully in other soil? Is it not also possible that private architecture ought to play a greater and not a diminishing part in the solution of current architectural problems?

The IRA has steadily set its face against any form of conflict between the various branches of the profession: it is concerned with the welfare of the whole but this question seems to be fundamental from that broad point of view.

A. E. Ward

Reply from Guest Editors

In answer to the questions, we say "yes" to the first, second, and fourth, but with regard to the third, we are concerned not to attract experienced architects from private to public employment, but to improve the status and efficiency of the public architect, and of the quality and quantity of his architecture.

The statement that we based our proposals on the assumption that the large public office is a permanent feature is quite correct, but we do agree that this assumption calls for objective examination.

The query as to whether private architecture should play a greater part in the solution of current architectural problems is not one which we would care to answer—that private architecture has a

very important part to play we do not doubt for a moment.

From the President of the City and Borough Architects' Society

I have pleasure in responding to your invitation to comment on the articles by your guest editors on the subject of office organization. In doing so I should make it clear that I am expressing my personal views, but I am permitted to say that they also accord with the opinions of the members of the City and Borough Architects' Society who attended a meeting when the articles were discussed.

I have read the contentions of your distinguished guest editors with great interest, but I must confess at the outset that I found it easier to agree with some of the anonymous criticisms quoted in their answers of September I1 than with much that they advocate.

The basic objective appears to be to enhance the status of the Group Leader and to this end to get rid of the pyramid type of organization and to substitute a form with a depressed apex and steeper sides. The apex, the Chief Architect, is to remain with policy making and co-ordinating responsibilities but apparently relieved of the executive responsibilities which are delegated to the Group Leaders. This detachment from the Chief Architect of normal full responsibility is the device employed to advance the status of the leader of a group of six or seven architects to a level which the guest editors imagine would justify a salary of £1,500-£2,000.

The organizational shape departs less from the pyramidical outline in the case of the larger office where a deputy and divisional architects may be interposed between the chief architect and the group leaders at salaries in the region of £3,000, the chief receiving £4,000.

In the first place I cannot agree that in the pyramid type of organization, intelligently administered, any officer in charge of a group of six or seven architects should have cause to regard himself as a hack; neither can I agree that this type of organization is inherently unsuited to a local government architectural department.

I entirely agree that the salaries of architects in local government employment are inadequate and that in very many cases they are not accorded the status they should enjoy as creative artists and members of a great profession, but we must be realistic in the measures we advocate to meet those deficiencies, and neither raise false hopes nor encourage an exaggerated sense of value. We must also recognize the background against which such proposals would be considered.

At the scale of local government standards a salary of $\pounds1,500-\pounds2,000$ would be difficult to reconcile with the responsibility for a staff of six or seven, even six or seven architects. Establishment Committees exist to see that a fair balance is maintained in the salaries of officers of a variety of professions in the departments of a local authority and they would need much further education in the value of architects' services before they would approve a figure approaching your contributors' suggestion.

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We must also bear in mind that it is only recently that Authorities have accepted the recommendations of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers concerning salary scales for the four "designated Chief Officers"—the Treasurer, Engineer and Surveyor, Chief Education Officer and Architect. These scales provide for salaries ranging from £600 for the chief officer of an Authority with a population of up to 5,000 to £3,000 as the maximum for a chief officer serving an Authority with a population of not more than 600,000.

It must not be overlooked that an architectural department must pass the test of economical justification, notwithstanding the numerous advantages which are incapable of mathematical calculation and we must consider whether salary scales at the suggested rates reflected throughout the professional and technical staff of a department would build up the total running costs to a figure which makes it more economical for the authority to employ other agencies. For instance, a fully developed City Architect's department might consist of three or four architects' sections or divisions containing between them perhaps twelve groups each of six or seven architects and architectural assistants. There might also be divisions concerned with quantity surveying, building engineering, town planning and bye-law administration, direct works management and general administrative and clerical duties.

Taking into account the fact that each section may contain up to four groups each with a leader comparable to the position of group leader in the set-up advocated by your guest editors, the formidable financial consequences of their proposals is apparent.

From the operational and administrative standpoint I can imagine that the delegation of executive responsibility to the leaders of such small units is likely to complicate the relations between sections or divisions within the department and make co-ordination and oversight much more difficult. The possible reactions throughout a large department are too involved to estimate.

After careful consideration I am not convinced by the case put forward by your guest editors. I have not their fear of the pyramidical type of organization and I still believe that the chief officer must accept full responsibility. Delegation within a department there must be, but I feel that the degree of delegation and the salaries suggested are more appropriate to the sectional or divisional head than to the so-called group leader.

I admire the ideals which have inspired the proposals of your guest editors, and if my remarks are critical in the interests of the need for a more realistic approach, it is not because I do not appreciate the importance and value of their contribution to a subject of vital concern to all local government architects.

Leonard C. Howitt,

Reply from Guest Editors

We appreciate that Mr. Howitt has gone to a good deal of trouble to comment so fully on our proposals and we value his criticisms, but of course there are a number of points which we must take up, because they are quite commonly held opinions among some chief architects in public offices.

First, Mr. Howitt still thinks that the "pyramid" type of organization is suitable for Local Government Architectural Departments, and that "intelligently administered," there is no need that "any officer in charge of a group of six or seven architects should have cause to regard himself as a hack."

We insist that the pyramid organization of so many large public offices is one of the prime causes of inefficiency and a deterrent to good architecture, and that, in fact, far too many architects in them become, and, more important, feel themselves to be hacks. We are worried to think that Mr. Howitt apparently does not realize this.

Then, on salaries, the last thing we wished to do was to raise false hopes, but we do think that, in order to raise salaries to the correct level, concerted action is required by all concerned. If Establishment Committees " need much further education in the value of architect's services," is there any reason why more should not be done about it? And, surely it is as important to base architect's salaries on the work to be done as on the population of the Local Authority concerned ? Also, although we are obviously concerned with the right level of chief Architect's salaries, we are just as concerned with a fair proportion all the way down-hence our criticism of the "pyramid."

On the question of economic justification, our theory is that, if you have the right kind of organization and the appropriate salaries, and of course, that the chief administers the office intelligently, then we think that more value for money in terms both of the quality and the quantity of the architecture will justify the outlay in thought and money. It is fundamental to our thesis that higher salaries for higher skill nearer the job

has, in our experience, resulted in greater efficiency and building economy far outweighing the additional expenditure on salaries. In passing, we would ask what he means by "building engineering," and we sincerely hope that no Architectural Department has a division concerned only with " administrative and clerical duties."

We do, however, appreciate that Mr. Howitt has done more than any other architect for public architectural offices and their staffs, but we would like to encourage him to go further along the same road.

From the Faculty of Architects and Surveyors

Much as the unwieldy growth of architectural departments in public offices is to be deplored, the fact must be faced that "official" architecture has come to stay. That being so, your article on group practice is very timely in bringing to the notice of the profession and to the authorities the unsatisfactory manner in which the management of these departments is at present carried out. At the same time pointing out a possible solution along the lines which " private " architects' practices have been conducted, to either a greater or lesser degree, for many years and which experience has proved to be the best principle.

The idea of dividing the present departments into Groups charged with the responsibility for the creation and organization from start to finish of the work entrusted to them will, in time, produce not only good architecture but better architects, rather than a multitude of "assistants" whose initiative and creative interest has been killed at birth.

Commenting on your article the position can best be summarized by breaking the system down to essential headings.

(1) *The chief* must be a man of outstanding ability not only professionally but in his capability to inspire those under his command. He must not become a mere administrator but should be in intimate contact with every phase of the work being carried out so that he does not lose touch with the progress of ideas and changing methods and technique.

This may prove an exacting, if not impossible, task if he is to be burdened with the overwhelming mass of legislation and red tape with which we are beset today. One method by which this problem could be overcome would be for the public body concerned to appoint a technical manager or liaison officer, who need not necessarily be an architect, to deal with matters of pure administration and keep the Chief posted with such relevant information as affect the design and layout, thus 10] THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 1, 1953

BRITISH INFORMATION AND CULTURAL CENTRE IN COLOGNE FOR





Die Brücke, the British Information and Cultural Centre in Cologne, was commissioned by the occupation authorities for members of H.M. Forces and the local population. It was completed in 1951, and was designed by Dr. Wilhelm Riphahn. The site occupies an important position in the centre of the town. The Centre has been built on land which was blitzed, between the Hahnenstrasse and Mittelstrasse. It conforms with the proposed plan for the rebuilding of this area. There is a very slight rise in ground level away from the street and on this is a lawn in front of the west wing of the building, which faces due south. There are two storeys in the west wing and three in the entrance block. The ground floor contains a newspaper reading room and lending library, a cinema seating



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First floor plan



Ground floor plan [Scale : ...,"= 1' 0"]

approximately 200 persons and the caretaker's quarters. The first floor contains study and discussion rooms and above the cinema a concert hall and art exhibition room. The structure has a steel-skeleton and is faced with Schwemmstein, a grey, porous stone. The roof and ceilings of the west wing are pre-

H.M. FORCES AND GERMAN CIVILIANS



fabricated and concrete-ribbed; the ceilings in the theatre block have concrete beams. Metal window frames are used throughout. Floors are covered with linoleum except in the foyer and entrance-hall staircase, where stone paving is used. The inner walls are plastered and painted white; other colours are yellow, blue and grey. Furniture is utility in character. Heating and cooling in the cinema and concert hall is effected by air-conditioning. The rest of the building is centrallyheated. The work cost just over £60,000. On the opposite page the exterior from the south-west. Above, the concert hall; centre, left, the cinema on the ground floor; centre, right, the foyer : below. the reading room



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ensuring that while all matters of administration are kept up to date the chief is freed for more important matters in respect of design.

(2) Group leaders or senior architects need to be men of sound knowledge and experience in order that in addition to the direction and supervision of the design and construction of the work in their charge they can also guide and instruct members of the team working under them so that in their turn they fit themselves to become future group leaders.

(3) The group would consist of several young qualified architects with a proportion of students in order to provide a better balance. Members of groups should enjoy the same possibilities as assistants in private practice in that, should they not fit in with other members of the group, or should they not feel they are gaining the kind of experience suited to their abilities, they could transfer to another group or department.

One final word in support of greater use and co-operation with private practising architects. A department or group can become stereotyped without exchange of ideas and practices and the occasional introduction of private practitioners working in conjunction with a group would help to infuse both with a greater appreciation of each other's problems and the exchange can do nothing but good for the profession.

H. M. Soar

Reply from Guest Editors

We do not think much comment is required on this contribution, except to say that it underlines several of the proposals we have made. On the first point raised, although we agree with everything said about the chief, the suggestion that there should be a " technical manager or liaison officer, who need not necessarily be an architect, to deal with matters of pure administration" is not one to which we could subscribe. We made the point strongly that in our opinion there is no such thing as " pure" administration, and that administration should be decentralized to become an essential part of the work of every architect.

On point 3, we agree cordially that the group should consist of a proportion of newly qualified architects and students undergoing training at a full time school of architecture. We have not had time to give our views on architectural education in relation to public architecture, but we do think it essential that all students should spend some time in an office as part of their course. We also agree that interchange between groups is most desirable.

Lastly, on the question of the greater use of, and co-operation with, private practising architects, we have already made it clear that we envisage close collaboration and mutual support between public and private architects. SHOWROOM IN BROOK STREET, W.1



The new showrooms opened recently by Allied Ironfounders at 28, Brook street, were designed to show architects, builders and others interested in housing, a comprehensive range of solid fuel appliances, gas and electrical cookers, heaters, baths, rainwater and soil pipes and kindred products. The reception area, below, is dominated by a carved brick mural by Trevor Tennant and shows the processes involved in casting in iron. The showrooms were designed by K. D. Atkins in co-operation with E. R. Aldhouse and Dr. Carl Franck of Mather & Crowther Ltd. Construction was by Westminster Joinery Ltd.



Th Ar res (se ad

The Architects' Journal for January 1, 1953 (13

WORKSHOPS

for the NORTH THAMES GAS BOARD at BECKTON, EAST HAM, LONDON, E.I6 designed by BRIAN COLQUHOUN and PARTNERS chief architect A. H. SHEARING quantity surveyors STANLEY GRIFFITHS and PARTNERS

The mechanical workshops at Beckton form a further stage in the reconstruction of the Tar and Ammonia Products Works, where first and second stage products are made from the crude by-products resulting from gas production. The new building, which stands to the west of the welfare centre (see AJ, April 27, 1950), takes the place of old, obsolete and scattered units, which have long been in-adequate for the growing needs of the works.

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The east facade, seen from the north.





WORKSHOPS

at BECKTON, LONDON, E.IG designed by BRIAN COLQUHOUN and PARTNERS

> SITE.—The site is flat and was chosen to give ready access both by road and rail, enabling the maximum advantage to be taken of repair facilities and allowing easy reception and distribution of materials from all sources.

Above, from the south-west. The flue is from the blacksmiths' shop.

PLAN.—The building has been designed to accommodate all the necessary engineering shops, together with their ancillary stores, administrative offices, drawing office, etc. Provision has been made for boilermakers, blacksmiths, welders, plumbers, electri an lig re co ea ov 3 as cr pl lo



Ground and first floor plans [Scale : $\frac{1}{66}$ " = ['0"]

tricians, tinsmiths, engine fitters and pipe fitters, and there is an area for locomotive repair. North lighting had to be provided for as large and unrestricted an area as possible, and accommodation covering some 80,000 sq. ft. consists of four bays, each with a span of 70 ft. In three of these bays overhead_travelling cranes of varying capacities from 3 to 10 tons have been provided. There is a large assembly area, which is readily accessible to all the crafts for building and repairing the large units of plant. A checking station is provided adjoining the loading dock, to enable materials received by road and

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rail to be delivered correctly into the various store areas. The administrative offices are on the first floor on the east side. They are divided from the main workshop area by a glazed, sound-proof corridor running the complete length of the building.

CONSTRUCTION .- The superstructure is carried on reinforced concrete piles, which support precast concrete ground beams. Aluminous cement has been used generally for work below ground as a precaution against acid-impregnated sub-soil. The main workshop area is steel framed : lattice piers

Below, the south facade of the blacksmiths', boilermakers' and welders' shops. Above the patent glazing is trough section asbestos sheeting, lined with insulation board insulation board.





WORKSHOPS

at BECKTON, LONDON, E.16 designed by BRIAN COLQUHOUN and PARTNERS



Left, view at gutter level, showing aluminium patent glazing and metal sheeting. The booms and wind bracing that form the external members of the roof trusses are protected against the highly corrosive atmosphere. Below left, interior view at truss level, showing roof lining of insulation board and aluminium patent glazing.

carry the overhead crane rails and continue into the roof to support the steel roof trusses. As a free floor area was required, and each group of three roo trusses spans 70 ft. without intermediate support, booms and wind bracing form external members (see photograph left). The office portion is completely disconnected from the main workshop area and is constructed in reinforced concrete. The external cladding consists mainly of a 7-ft. high brick dado, above which is aluminium patent glazing.

FINISHES .- The main roofing material is bituminized metal sheeting, lined with insulation board and the north lighting is of aluminium patent glazing. The external members of the roof trusses are treated with bituminous paint and, after wrapping with wire netting, are coated with asphalt which is finally wrapped with mineralised bituminous felt. Externally brickwork is generally in red hand-made sand-faced bricks. Window frames to the offices are of aluminium. The windows, door surrounds and copings were all cast on the site. There is a carefully prepared internal colour scheme, as with other new buildings on the site. The roof lining of the workshops area is primrose yellow ; dividing strips and roof trusses were painted in aluminium; crane rails and other horizontal steelwork are cherry red; steel stanchions are Ouaker blue; walling is white, with a 7-ft. high dado coloured elephant grey. In the offices the acoustic tile ceilings are pink and walls are white above a mist grey dado 4 ft. 6 in. high. Internal joinery is of oiled teak and flush doors are painted Quaker blue. Flooring in the main workshop is generally of non-dusting monolithic granolithic laid integrally with the concrete ground slab. In the machine shop and other areas where small tools may be easily damaged by being dropped on a hard surface, the flooring is of end grain wood paving. Granulated wood blocks have been used throughout the office area.

SERVICES.—Overhead artificial lighting is generally by means of mercury vapour fluorescent lamps supplemented by low-voltage tungsten lamps for where a higher level of local illumination is required. The general contractors were Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons, Ltd. For sub-contractors see page 30.

WORKING DETAIL

SEAT: UNDERGRADUATES' GUILD, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Ernest Race, designer

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The detachable seating units, supported on a frame of steel rod, are upholstered with rubberised hair and foamed rubber and covered in rayon and cotton fabric

WORKING DETAIL

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SEAT: UNDERGRADUATES' GUILD, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Ernest Race, designer



SECTION THRO' SEAT. scale 4 full size

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WORKING DETAIL

SHOWCASE WITH HEATER: TRAVEL AGENCY IN LONDON, W.1.

Dennis Lennon, architect



The heating unit contained in the lower part of the fitting is connected to the hot water system by the tubular legs and the warmed air is circulated by means of electric fans

WORKING DETAIL

SHOWCASE WITH HEATER: TRAVEL AGENCY IN LONDON, W.1.

Dennis Lennon, architect



DETAIL AT A. scale 1/2 full size

SECTION THROUGH FITTING.







Typical section through 70-ft. bay [Scale : } and }' = 1' 0']

Right, interior of the assembly area. The lattice stanchions in the foreground carry the overhead crane rails and steel roof trusses.



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18] The Architects' Journal for January 1, 1953

HOUSING

in BEECHWOOD AVENUE, SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX designed by BASIL SPENCE and PARTNERS quantity surveyor B. M. KIMBER

Sunbury-on-Thames housing site 9 contains a total of 190 dwellings, of which 138 are two-storey terrace or semi-detached houses, 36 are flats in 3 three-storey blocks of 12 and 16 single-storey old people's cottages in 4 separate blocks and is designed for the UDC. One block of 11 garages has been built and another 13 are planned and will be built if required.

Terrace and semi-detached houses from the south-west.



Above, two-sto south-z

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Above, three-storey flats and two-storey houses from the south-west.

KEY

- One storey O.P. dwellings (also two blocks on a N-S axis between blocks of flats)
- 2. Two-storey houses
- 3. Three-storey flats
- 4. Garages

SITE.—The site is flat and low-lying and has no existing trees. A planting scheme is prepared, but has not yet been carried out. Beechwood Avenue runs along the south boundary of the site. Each house and old people's dwelling has a garden; in addition there are allotments available to tenants at a small rent. Public pavements follow the line of the blocks and are not therefore necessarily parallel to the side roads. Pavements are all kept 10 ft. from houses to give a constant depth of front garden. All rear gardens are screened by honeycomb brick link walls. PLAN.—On the west side of the site are six blocks, backing each other in three pairs with rear service access, thus avoiding passage ways through the blocks. Other terraces have service passage ways with alternating two- and three-bedroom houses, third bedrooms being over the passage. Of the 36 flats, 24 have two bedrooms and 12 have one bedroom. The latter are on the ground floor, where pram stores are provided. Old people's dwellings have one bedroom. The three-bedroom house is 1,008 sq. ft. and the two bedroom, 903 sq. ft., including outbuildings.

CONSTRUCTION.—Except for the ground floor of three-storey flat blocks, which are of $13\frac{1}{2}$ -in. solid brickwork, all external walls are of 11-in. cavity brick construction. Internal walls and partitions are $4\frac{1}{2}$ -in. brick or $2\frac{1}{2}$ -in. breeze. Roofs are of light timber trusses at 3-ft. centres. Ground floors are concrete, upper floors are t. and g. boarding on joists.



Two-storey terrace houses with old people's dwellings beyond, from the west.

immersion heater is provided in the storage tank for summer use. A council order forbids any television aerials on buildings. Where they are needed, poles must be erected at the end of gardens. The final costs of the lowest contracts were $\pounds_{1,254}$ 18s. Id. (June, 1951) for flats, \pounds_{882} 11s. 9d. (March, 1951) for O.P. dwellings and $\pounds_{1,185}$ 9s. Iod. for 2-storey houses, per dwelling in each case. The costs per foot square were 35s. 11d., 35s. Iod. and 24s. Iod., respectively.

The general contractors were Co-Partners Building Operatives, Ltd. (flats), Messrs. C. & S. Telling and A. E. Hopkins & Son (houses and O.P. dwellings), Henry Day (Merton), Ltd., and Gamblin & Son, Ltd. (houses only). For sub-contractors, page 30.



HOUSING

at SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX designed by BASIL SPENCE and PARTNERS

FINISHES.—Exterior walls have a cement paint finish on common bricks. The colours used are white, deep cream, yellow, pink and duck egg green, varying from block to block. Front doors are painted in bright contrasting colours. Roofs are 22 S.W.G. aluminium sheeting over building paper and ½-in. fibreboard on 2-in. by 1-in. battens at 2-ft. centres. Ground floors are covered with brown asphalt in living rooms and buff coloured tiles elsewhere. Ceilings are plasterboard. Galvanized metal windows are used.

SERVICES.—Heating and hot water is provided by the living room fire, which has a back boiler. Each first bedroom has a radiator. An electric



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The Architects' Journal for January 1, 1953 [21



THE LIBRARY OF INFORMATION SHEETS

This week part of the Technical Section is devoted to the customary annual review of the Library.

From time to time, and regularly each December, all Sheets are examined and checked, and where a manufacturer's products form the subject of a Sheet the manufacturer in question is asked to certify that the data are still current. Where a Sheet is found to require considerable modification, it is cancelled and readers should remove such Sheets from their collections. Where only small variations are involved, revision notes enable the Sheet to be corrected.

The Sheets 46.Z (A-F), (G-P) and (R-Z) published in the issues of 11.12.52, and 25.12.52 give an up-to-date index cancelling all previous indexes.

On the following pages will be found a list of the revisions and cancellations which have become necessary during the year and a statement of the contents of the Library with all Sheets current at this date in correct sequence. For the benefit of new subscribers we also give information on the method of filing Sheets.

REPRINTS

To enable new subscribers to complete their Library all Sheets published since the inception of the new series in October, 1947, have been checked and reprinted. Readers requiring sets or individual Sheets should fill in the form printed in the adjoining column. Sets are available as follows:

| Oct., | 1947-Dec. | 27, | 1951, | inclusive | £3 | 6s. | 6 <i>d</i> . |
|-------|-----------|-----|-------|-----------|--------|------|--------------|
| Oct., | 1947-Dec. | 25, | 1952 | 3.5 | £3 | 175. | 6d. |

Specially designed binding cases to hold approximately 100 Sheets may be obtained at the price of 5s. od. each (Postage 6d.). Individual Sheets may be ordered at the price of 3d. each.

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REVISIONS

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During the last few weeks all published Sheets have been carefully examined to bring the information up-to-date, and, with the exceptions noted below, are certified as current and correct.

The following list sets out revisions to the Library for the year ending December 25, 1952. A record of the revisions for 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951 was published in the JOURNALS for December 23, 1948, December 29, 1949, December 21, 1950, and December 27, 1951.

1.B60.—Face of Sheet—The Duc type lettering in upper case is now available in a 25 mm. (1 in.) size.

7.C2.—Reverse of Sheet—Under heading "Gauging" in Specification Notes, "Undercoat" should read "Anti-Aqua Undercoat." Under heading "Rendering" the first note should read "a render coat gauged 1 vol. Stonite Undercoat Binders to 3 vol. clean sharp sand, applied at least § in. thick." The last sentence commencing "Heavy scratching . . ." should be replaced by "The render coat should be keyed by horizontal wavy lines to receive Stonite scraped finish. For Stonite spatter finish the render coat should not be keyed." Under "Finishing coats : (a) the first part of the second paragraph should read "applied with a trowel and finished with a wooden float." Delete the fourth paragraph beginning "If the Stonite . . .". Under. "Stonite Products," the following amendments should be made :—" Undercoat : Binders to be mixed with local sand as a render coat for all Stonite finishing coats," and "Undercoat, Anti-Aqua : For very exposed positions and where special weather resisting qualities are required." Delete " Stonite bedding mortar : etc. . . ."

8.E1.—Face of Sheet—Change note under house insulation, sizes—rolls : to 18 ft. long. Resin-bonded semirigid mat : "mat" should now read "slab" and they are made in three nominal densities for ranges of thicknesses as follows :— $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per cu. ft.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. increments, 3 lb. per cu. ft.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 1 in. to 3 in. in $\frac{1}{2}$ in. increments. Reverse of Sheet—Additional addresses of Fibreglass Ltd. are :—Birmingham Office : Piccadilly Arcade, New Street, Birmingham, 2. Telephone: Midland 0464/5. Dublin Office: 21, Merrion Square North, Dublin. Telephone: Dublin 66024.

10.B3.—Reverse of Sheet—In table headed "Heat-treatable materials" delete reference to alloy H.E.9M. Under heading "Relevant British Standards" delete reference to B.S./ST A7.

11.C1.—Face of Sheet—Under Teco shear-plate timber connector the size of washers is 3 in. by 3 in. by $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick. Reverse of Sheet—In all tables the allowable loads given are for one timber connector in each case.

12.F1.—Reverse of Sheet—Add "Newcastle" to the list of Branches.

19.Z10.—Face of Sheet—Backing strips to the sizes shown may now be obtained in plastic with the same properties and colours as the tread inserts. Larger-sized strip up to a maximum of 5 in. by $\frac{1}{4}$ in. can be supplied. Reverse of Sheet—The address of the London office is now 76, Victoria Street, London, S.W.I. Telephone: Victoria 1845/6. Telegrams: Karroko, Wesphone, London.

20.B1.—Reverse of Sheet—At the end of the paragraph headed "Sizes and Loadings" the following words should be added "The floor can also be designed for continuity."

20.72.—Face of Sheet—Upper drawing : the effective width of the deck unit is now 1 ft. Reverse of Sheet— Under heading "Steel Deck Units": amend covering width to 1 ft. Units are now constructed from 22 g, sheet welded

to 20 g. channel section. Supporting members at 8 ft. maximum centres are recommended for roof slopes of 0 to 10 degrees. For roof slopes greater than 10 degrees the supporting members should be at 10 ft. maximum centres. Delete existing table.

23.B1.—Reverse of Sheet—Replace the note under "Glazing" by the following "Mitred glazing beads for glazed openings are not supplied with standard doors."

23.C2.—Face of Sheet—Amend the vertical door opening sizes of 6 ft. $5\frac{6}{8}$ in. in the upper left hand and centre left hand details to 6 ft. $5\frac{5}{8}$ in.

27.B10.—Reverse of Sheet—Under the heading "Tiles" the thickness of type C.3.G. tiles should read $\frac{13}{16}$ in.

29.C1.—Reverse of Sheet—Under sub-heading "Taps" delete all reference to the third type of tap. In the table under "Rating" the following amendments should be made: In first column 0.45 sp. gr. should read 0.475 sp. gr.; in second column 21/10 should read 22/10; in the third and fourth columns 24/10 should read 25/10.

29.C1 and **29.C2**.—Reverse of Sheets—Under sub-heading "Finish" the notes should read "The fire is now obtainable finished only in gold, copper, pewter, bronze or parchment (stone)."

29.C10.—Face of Sheet—in top left diagram, overall height is now 2 ft. 1 in. and overall width 1 ft. 5 in. In the drawing of the brick recess, the height is now 2 ft. only. Reverse of Sheet—Under "Finish" the note should now read "Stoveenamelled beige, gold or bronze lustre colours."

30.D12.—The manufacturer would like to point out that the ventilators, in addition to their use as extractors, can be used as fresh air inlets either in the walls or as low level inlets in pitched roofs.

31.B1 and **31.B2.**—Face of Sheets—An 8-in. dia. cast-iron flue pipe is now used instead of the $6\frac{1}{2}$ -in. dia. steel pipe shown.

32.B1.—Face of Sheet—In the table of dimensions, the flow and return pipe sizes for models 30M and 41M (Bower Barffed boilers) now $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. Reverse of Sheets—The ratings of models 55M, 65M and 80M are now 51,000, 60,000 and 70,000 B.Th.U./hr. respectively ; other output figures for these models are modified accordingly.

32.C3.—Reverse of Sheet—Under the heading "Installation," sub-heading "Water-type No. 15 : Connection" the note should read " $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. plumber's union to ball-valve."

32.D7.—Face of Sheet—Types IS, JS and **KS**—the hot water outlet should be changed from the right-hand side to the centre top of the heater ; delete dimension C and references to it in the table.

36.B1.—Reverse of Sheet—Under the heading "Construction, Side discs" note should now read "Aluminium or pressed steel." Under "Finish" change "mahogany" to "fire-red cellulose."

43.E15.—The equipment is now available with coloured plastic tops. New types of sink units are available, having the same overall sizes as those shown, but with a separate draining compartment replacing the usual draining surfaces.

CANCELLATIONS

Sheets 8.E1, 10.B1, 10.B2, 14.B1, 32.C20 and 32.D8 were cancelled, revised and republished last year. Sheets 15.B1, 33.P1 and 33.Q1 are being revised and will be re-published. Sheets 31.C1, 32.C1 and 32.C2 have now been cancelled and should be withdrawn from the Library.

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1.A1

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2.A2

2.B3

4.A10

4.E1

7.C2 (R'51)

10.E1

10.G5

10.G14

10.J2 13.C11 (R'51)

14.L3 (R'50)

FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Every Information Sheet is perforated so that it may be readily removed from the JOURNAL and has a classification symbol printed in the top corner, for example, 32.C20. The key to the classification system is contained in Sheet 1.A1, reference to which should make filing a simple matter.

The first number of the symbol, 32, refers to one of the 46 main subjects into which the Library has been divided (in this case, Water Heating) : the letter that follows refers to the section, C (in this case, units : gas), under subject 32 : the final number indicates the position in which the Sheet is to be placed in the appropriate section.

Every December a check list of the contents of the Library is issued showing the correct sequence of all Sheets published to date. Throughout the year, any revisions to or cancellations of Sheets are noted in the JOURNAL and the Editor will always be pleased to assist if any difficulty is encountered in keeping the Library in order.



TECHNICAL SECTION

46.Z (A-F) REFERENCE BACK. Readers are asked to note the following correction and to amend their copy of the Index Sheets in guestion :- The entry under Colt Ventilation Ltd. of " clay block floors . . . 20.B1" should be under "Concrete, Prestressed."

| | CORI | RECT | SE | QUE | NCE | OF | COM | PLET | ΈI | JBR | ARY | AT | DECE | MBEI | R 25 | 5, 19 | 952 | |
|---|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | 1.A1 | 1.A2 | 1.A3 | 1.B1 | 1.B2 | 1.B3 | 14.N4 | 14.N5 (R'49) | 14.N6 (R'49) | 14.N7 (R*49) | 14.N8 (R'49) | 14.N9 (R'49) | 29.C1 (R'50) | 29.C2 (R'52) | 29.C3 | 29.C10 (R'52) | 20.C20 | 29.G1 |
| | 1.B4 | 1.85 | 1.B5a | 1.B6 | 1.B7 | 1.B8 | 15.C1 (R'51) | 15.C2 (R'51) | 15.C4 | 15.R1 (R'50) | 15.S2 | 15.T1 | 29.J1 | 29.J3 | 29.J4 (R'51) | 29.J5 (R'51) | 29.J6 | 29.J10 |
| | 1.B9 | 1.B10 | 1.B11 | 1.B12 | 1.B13 | 1.B14 | 15.T2 | 15.Z1 (CR'51) | 15.Z2 | 16.B1 | 16.C1 | 16.J1 | 29.J11 | 29.KI | 30.B1 | 30.B2 | 30.C1 (R'49) | 30.C2 |
| | 1.B15 | 1.B16 | 1.B18 (R'51) | 1.B19 | 1.B20 | 1.B21 | 17.B1 | 17.B2 | 18.F1 (R'51) | 18.F2 | 18.G1 (R'51) | 19.F1 | 30.D1 | 30.D10 | 30.D11 | 30.D12 (R'52) | 30.D21 | 30.E1 |
| | 1.B22 | 1.B23 | 1.B24 | 1.B25 | 1.B26 | 1.B27 | 19.F2 | 19.G1 (CR'51) | 19.G2 | 19.G3 (R'51) | 19.G4 | 19.J1 | 31.B1 (R'52) | 31.B2 (R'52) | 31.C2 | 31.C3 | 32.B1 (R'52) | 32.C3 (R'52) |
| | 1.B28 | 1.B29 | 1.B30 | 1.B31 | 1.B32 (R'51) | 1.B33 | 19.Z1 | 19.Z10 (B'52) | 20.B1 (R'52) | 20.C1 | 20.C2 | 20.C10 | 32.C10 | 32.C11 | 32.C20 (CR'52) | 32.C21 | 32.C22 | 32.C23 |
| | 1.B34 | 1.B35 | 1.B36 | 1.B37 | 1.B38 | 1.B39 | 20.C11 | 20.C12 | 20.Z1 | 20.Z2 (R'52) | 20.Z5 | 20.Z6 | 32.C24 | 32.C25 | 32.C26 | 32.C27 | 32.C28 | 32.C29 |
| | 1. B 40 | 1.B41 | 1.B48 | 1.B49 | 1.B60 (R`52) | 2.A1 (R'49) | 20.Z12 | 20.Z13 | 21.E1 | 21.G1 (R'51) | 22.D1 (R'51) | 22.D2 (R'51) | 32.C30 | 32.C31 | 32.C32 | 32.D7 (R'52) | 32.D8 (CR°52) | 32.D9 (R'49) |
| | 2.A2 | 2.A3 | 2.A4 | 2.A5 | 2.B1 | 2.B2 | 22.D3 | 22.D11 | 22.D12 | 22.D13 (R'50) | 22.D14 | 22.D15 | 32.D10 (R'49) | 33.B1 | 33.B2 | 33.C1 (R'49) | 33.C2 (R'49) | 33.C3 (R'49) |
| | 2.83 | 2.B4 (R*50) | 2.B5 | 2.HI | 2.H2 | 4.A1 | 22.D16 | 22.E1 (R'51) | 22.E2 (R*51) | 22.F1 (R'51) | 23.B1 (R'52) | 23.B2 | 33.C4 | 33.C5 | 33.C6 | 33.C7 | 33.C8 | 33.C9 |
| | 4.A10 | 4.A11 | 4.A12 | 4.A13 | 4.A14 | 4.A20 | 23.C1 (R'51) | 23.C2 (R'52) | 23.C3 (R'51) | 23.H1 | 23.H2 | 23.H3 | 33.C10 | 33.C11 | 33.C12 | 33.KI | 33.Q2 (R'50) | 33.Q3 |
| | 4.E1 | 4.E2 | 4.L1 | 4.1.2 | 4.L10 | 4.L11 | 23.H4 | 23.H5 | 24.C1 (R'51) | 24.C2 (R'51) | 24.C3 (R'51) | 24.D1 (R'51) | 33.Q4 | 33.U1 | 33.U4 | 33.US | 33.U10 | 35.B1 (R'51) |
| | 4.N1 | 4.N2 | 6.A1 (R'50) | 6.A20 | 6.A21 | 7.C1 (R'51) | 24.D2 | 24.D3 | 24.D4 | 24.D8 | 24.E1 | 24.J1 | 35.B2 | 36.A1 | 36.B1 (R'52) | 36.D1 (CR*50 | 36.D2 | 37.C1 (R'50) |
| | 7.C2 (R*51) | 8.E1 (CR & R'52) | 8.F1 | 10.B1 (CR'52) | 10.B2 (CR'52) | 10.B3 (R'52) | 24.M1 | 24.M2 | 24.N1 | 24.N2 | 24.51 | 24.52 | 37.D1 (R*50) | 37.D2 (R'50) | 37.D3 | 37.HI | S37.H1 | 37.H2 |
| | 10.E1 | 10.F1 | 10.G1 | 10.G2 | 10.G3 | 10.G4 | 24.Z1 | 25.A1 | 25.A2 | • 25.A3 | 25.A4 | 25.A5 | 37.H3 | 37.H4 | 37.H10 | 38.B1 | 38.C1 | 38.D1 |
| | 10.G5 | 10.G6 | 10.G10 | 10.G11 | 10.G12 | 10.G13 | 25.A6 | 26.A1 | 26.C1 (R'50) | 26.D1 | 26.D2 | 26.E1 (R*50) | 40.B1 (R'49) | 40.B2 | 42.B2 (CR'51 | , 42.Ci | 42.C2 | 42.C3 |
| | 10.G14 | 10.G15 | 10.G20 | 10.G21 | 10.G22 | 10.J1 | 26.E2 | 26.F1 (R'50) | 26.F2 (R'50) | 26.F3 (R'50) | 26.F4 (R'50) | 26.J3 (R'51) | 42.C4 | 42.05 | 42.K1 | 43.E1 (R'51) | 43.E2 | 43.E12 |
| | 10.J2 | 10.J3 | 11.C1 (R'52) | 12.F1 (R'52) | 12.N1 | 13.C10 | 26.34 | 26.J5 (R'48) | 26.36 | 26.J20 | 26.M1 | 26.M2 | 43.E13 (R'51) | 43.E14 (R'51) | 43.E15 | 43.E16 (R'51) | 43.Z2 (CR*49 | 43.Z3 |
| | 13.C11 (R'51) | 13.C12 (R'51) | 13.H1 | 14.B1 (CR'52) | 14.L1 (R*50) | 14.L2 (R*50) | 27.B9 (R'51) | 27.B10 (R'52) |) 27.C1 (R'48) | 27.F1 (R'51) | 28.A1 (R'50) | 28.A2 | 44.D1 (R'50) | 44.D2 (R*51) | 44.E1 | 44.E2 | 44.J1 | 45.A1 |
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TECHNICAL SECTION

At the time when staff cuts are being made at BRS comes this timely reminder from Arthur Ewing, Director of the Steel, Engineering and Housing Division of the UN Economic Commission for Europe, that the fate of international collaboration in building research also hangs in the balance. Mr. Ewing traces the growth of the International Council for Building Documentation, pays tribute to the part played by the UK in the past, and says that the future of the organization depends on the support of the building industry and the building professions.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IN BUILDING RESEARCH

by Arthur F. Ewing

International collaboration between building research workers is by no means new, but it has, until recent years, been sporadic and on a limited scale. The widespread enthusiasm which characterized the early days of the Economic Commission for Europe's Housing Sub-Committee, the backbone of which has always been the technical and professional side of the building industry, was evidence of the desire and need of the building technician, and in particular the research worker, to get to know more intimately his opposite number in other countries. Much of the work of the ECE Housing Sub-Committee has been, so far, research, carried out, on a co-operative basis, by means of fundamental enquiries and studies. Many of these studies have been technical; e.g., those on strength and stability factors, design considerations and the better utilization of space, economy and substitution in building materials, and techniques of prefabrication. At an early stage, however, members of the Housing Sub-Committee realized that this kind of work should be put on a more permanent inter-professional basis, and, moreover, on a basis that would enable them to secure adequate funds and other resources.

DOCUMENTATION

A conference on building documentation was held in Geneva in October, 1949, under the auspices of the Housing Sub-Committee. This led to the setting up of the International Council for Building Documentation (CIDB), with its headquarters and secretariat in Paris, at a general assembly in Paris in 1950. CIDB is a co-ordinating organization linking together national documentation committees, and its principal activity so far has been the circulation of abstracts of technical and scientific literature. The Council,

through specialized working parties, has devoted considerable attention to. and made much progress in, the adoption of a uniform classification system, uniform terminology and uniform methods of making abstracts. Apart from its "international" activities, CIDB has done much to stimulate the formation of national documentation committees in the participating countries. The Council is now beginning to turn its attention more to what is known as "active" documentation the dissemination of technical literature in a rather more popular form, likely to be of use to the working architect and the practical builder. It must be admitted that progress, so far, has been slower than was hoped for by the original sponsors of the scheme. It should be remembered, however, that the whole organization is dependent on funds provided by the national centres or committees, themselves not wealthy bodies.

RESEARCH

When arrangements for the creation of an international documentation organization were being discussed, it was apparent that similar arrangements should be considered for collaboration in building research. Indeed, the close relation between documentation and research has always been emphasized. Once again, it was the ECE's Housing Sub-Committee that took the initiative by calling a general conference on building research in Geneva in November, 1950. This conference, like the one on documentation, was very well attended by a wide variety of well-known experts. Its task proved to be to demonstrate the prima facie case for new arrangements to promote international collaboration in building research.

The job of working out details was left to a much smaller body subse-

quently set up by the Housing Sub-Committee and known as the Building Organizing Research Committee This consisted of experts (BROC). from Belgium, France, Portugal, Swe-den, the UK and the USA. In addition, a number of non-governmental organizations were invited and subsequently nominated representatives— namely, the CIAM, CIDB, the International Federation of Building and Public Works, the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning, the International Organization for Standardization, the International Union of Architects and the Union of Labora-tories. The deliberations of BROC lasted for more than a year and its final report was submitted to and examined by the ECE Housing Sub-Committee last September.

METHODS OF COLLABORATION

BROC first examined methods of collaboration and came to the conclusion that there was scope for:

- systematic exchange of information on research work in progress and projected;
- ii. progressive unification of methods (testing, measuring, etc.);
- iii. sharing of work and joint research; iv. periodic symposia, including periodic reviews of the progress of technical knowledge in particular fields (documentary research);
- v. synthesis of results of research and collaboration in its application.

Stress was laid, however, on the fact that collaboration in research can only be voluntary and that an international organization should not attempt to direct national research programmes.

EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS

The next task was to examine how far existing arrangements for international collaboration were satisfactory. It was recognized that some important work had already been done or was in progress. For example, the four Scandinavian countries had already started four joint projects on the problems of small wooden houses, rendering, ra-tionalization on the building site, and methods of cost and productivity analysis. Some useful work had been done through inter-laboratory collaboration in acoustics and the value of the work of the Union of Laboratories was clearly recognised. This body is engaged in pooling research facilities and in promoting the adoption of common methods in the testing of building materials. It is particularly concerned with the unification of testing methods and has so far concentrated mainly on cement and concrete; e.g., surfaces of cements, utilization of demolition rubble as concrete aggregate, and problems of lightweight concretes. BROC itself, in order to make a practical start and in order to illustrate some of the practical problems of inter-



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national collaboration, initiated three specific pilot schemes of collaboration —on ceiling heights in dwellings, unitary flue systems, and the relation of building costs to the height and width of blocks of flats. This work is now in progress under the guidance of *rapporteurs*, and three or four countries are collaborating actively on each project.

NEED FOR NEW ARRANGEMENTS

After careful study of the work of all international organizations directly or indirectly interested in building research, the organizing committee reached the conclusion that existing international arrangements were inadequate and that there was a case for establishing new international arrangements. The committee recognized, however, that countries would not be anxious to create an entirely new international organization if this could be avoided. Recognizing the close relation between research and documentation and the need to give a further impetus to the work of CIDB, they recommended that CIDB should extend its field of activity and, in effect, transform itself into a new organization capable of dealing with both documentation and research. They recommended, in fact, that the new organization should have three fields of activity: first, documentation proper (comprising the collection, reproduction and dissemination of accurate information in standard written form) and the techniques of documentation; second, research proper (including all forms of experimental research from laboratory to testing site); third, " studies " and the application of the results of research. It was realised that the boundaries between these three fields were by no means firm but that, as a working arrangement, three sections based on these three fields of activity would be an appropriate and convenient arrangement for the organization.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

While it was desirable to have a precise organization at the headquarters, BROC realized there could not be any uniform pattern at the national level. Some countries carry out the three types of activity contemplated in separate organizations. Thus, in the UK, BRS is responsible for the greater part of the research carried out in the building industry. It also disseminates documentary information within the general meaning of the term as understood by the CIDB, though not precisely in the same format, through the Building Science Abstracts. The British Building Documentation Committee, on the other hand, is under the general sponsorship of MOW, which provides the secretary. Organized dissemination of the results of research and the general co-ordination of the building research programme as a whole is also

the responsibility of MOW. Logically, BRS would be the body to join the research section of the proposed international organization; the MOWsponsored British Building Documentation Committee, the section to deal with documentation; and MOW, the section to be concerned with "studies" and the application of the results of research.

It should be remembered that the organization is intended to be nongovernmental in form. Although, inevitably, owing to national arrangements in the UK and other countries, government or government-sponsored bodies are likely to be the main adherents, in principle there is no reason why non-governmental bodies should not join or associate themselves with the international organization.*

In France, a single organization, the Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment, is largely concerned with all three forms of activity. In Sweden, there are a number of private and public bodies interested in research, of which the principal is the Swedish State Building Committee. Documentation, on the other hand, is largely, for the present, in the hands of an active private organization. In a number of other countries, arrangements are more complex and, indeed, not all countries are at present interested in all three fields of activity. For these reasons, the organizing committee's recommendations relating to the structure of the organization were flexible, so that one or more national organizations could join the proposed international body and could participate in one, two or all three fields of activity.

THE FUTURE OF CIDB

The recommendations also provide for the possibility of associating actively with other international organizations interested in research and documentation. It is envisaged that, ultimately, the stage will be reached where the programmes of work of such international organizations, and in particular the programmes of their congresses, will be drawn up after joint consultations-in order to avoid possible duplication of effort and to establish overall priorities. Finally, as is the case with CIDB, it is expected that the organization will have formal relations with UNO and, in particular, with the ECE. In CIDB, this has been done, firstly, by the insertion of a clause in the statutes which provides that UNO shall be regularly invited to be represented at meetings of the organization and its subsidiary bodies, and, secondly, by obtaining consultative status with

* For a list and brief account of the national organizations concerned in the UK, see the *Directory of Building Research and Derelopment Organizations in Europe*, prepared by the Secretariat of the ECE in 1951 and published jointly with the UN Department of Social Affairs, page 60. This publication was one of the outcomes of the work of the Building Research Organizing Committee. TECHNICAL SECTION

UNO, which confers on the organization certain privileges.

The organizing committee made no attempt to go into details concerning the staffing, seat and cost of the organization. They anticipated, however, that the total cost would be, perhaps, twice the present budget of CIDB. (This was based on the assumption that the three sections might be housed, at least for a considerable initial period, in three national organizations that would be able to provide, out of their own resources, the necessary technical staff and facilities.) It was agreed generally that administrative and secretariat expenses should be kept to the minimum until the organization had demonstrated in practice that it could provide the benefits for its members which its sponsors anticipated.

The ECE Housing Sub-Committee endorsed generally the recommendations of its Building Research Organizing Committee and it now rests with the national organizations, actually or potentially interested, to work out together the details. In this they will continue to be aided by the officers of the Housing Sub-Committee and the ECE Secretariat. It is anticipated that a general assembly of CIDB will be called some time this year and that this assembly will work out and establish the transformation of CIDB into the new combined organization.

SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES

The new organization, although it has great possibilities, will have to be nursed carefully for some time to come. Even at the national level, research and the dissemination of scientific and technical information is hardly a robust child in an industry as conservative as the building industry. International collaboration is handicapped further by the fact that there is no natural link across national frontiers, owing to the virtual absence of international trade in the products of the industry. Since the organization is intended to be nongovernmental in form, in the long run it will thrive or die according to the attitude and support of the building industry and the building professions. In the short run, however, it will require government support. The attitude of governments varies : most European governments are well disposed towards the whole venture but some are, not unnaturally, more reserved at the present stage. The government of the UK has not yet taken a definite position. It has, however, played an active and distinguished part in the preliminary preparations, through the Chairman of the Building Research Organizing Committee and former Chairman of the Housing Sub-Committee, Robert Fitzmaurice, and through Dr. Thomas Parker, Deputy Director of BRS, who represented the UK on the organizing committee.

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TECHNICAL SECTION

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A DRY SYSTEM OF WALLING

F. R. Henderson, the inventor of the cantilevered scaffolding system described in the Technical Section for November 1, 1951, has devised a dry system of walling, now patented. The principal elements are hollow concrete blocks about 4 ft. long, 10 in. deep and 6-8 in. thick. Passing through these vertically, the full height of the building, are $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. steel or alloy rods, held together at the top by flat metal tie bars. These tie



the walls are plumb. Hence the walling can be erected easily and quickly by unskilled labour. At wall junctions flat angle pieces of thin sheet metal, every 5 or 6 courses, tie the walls together, thereby providing lateral stability. Joints, both vertical and horizontal, are made by means of a cord of flex or hemp impregnated with bitumen and recessed into a groove in the blocks a type of joint widely used in shipbuilding—an industry Mr. Henderson has been connected with for many years. When the muts at the top of the rods are tightened on to the tie bar the joints are compressed and become thoroughly watertight. The cord prevents the concrete blocks from actually touching each other, nor are they connected by mortar (none is used), so that thermal and moisture movement can take place freely.

INFORMATION CENTRE

A digest of current information prepared by independent specialists; printed so that readers may cut out items for filing and paste them up in classified order.

8.32 surveying and specification QUANTITY SURVEYOR

The Function of the Quantity Surveyor in the British Building Industry. (Inst. of Quantity Surveyors, 1952. Reprinted from the Journal of the Inst. of Quantity Surveyors, Vol. 9, No. 1. July/Aug., 1952.)

11-pp. pamphlet setting out very clearly the normal functions of the quantity surveyor, from the commencement of the job until its completion, and describing the bill of quantities, its preparation and its use. The pamphlet is concerned with the origin and present function of the bill of quantities, and anyone seeking enlightenment on these points would do well to obtain a copy.

The more contentious issues of the subject are not touched upon in this pamphlet. Whether, for instance, the bill of quantities can adequately reflect the standardization and simplification which the consulting engineer may have been at great pains to introduce; whether it could be simplified on American lines; or whether it should be adapted to suit progressing, bonusing and ordering materials.

The statement that "when disputes arise between architect and contractor the quantity surveyor is there to arbitrate between them" requires some clarification. The quantity surveyor is allotted the task of valuing authorized variations, but if the contractor disputes any decision which comes within the architect's scope, the quantity surveyor is certainly not in a position to adjudicate. However, it is true to say that the quantity surveyor's specialized knowledge frequently helps the parties to reach agreement, and no doubt this is what the author had in mind.

The older and better-known professional bodies are primarily concerned with independent surveyors, trained to impartiality, and with a professional code of conduct upon which the public can rely. For this reason, surveyors employed by builders, who have a duty to serve their employer's interests rather than to administer a contract impartially, are not administer a contract impartially, are not administer a contract inspartially, are not administer a caters for all quantity surveyors, however, caters for all quantity surveyors, no matter by whom they may be employed and, with some justification, the author makes a plea for more builders to employ quantity surveyors on their staffs. There is no doubt that a final account, satisfactory to both parties, can be prepared and agreed much more rapidly and efficiently if both the independent surveyor and the builder's representative are well versed in the arts of quantity surveying.

10.99 design : building types SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Development Projects: Wokingham. MOE Building Bulletin No. 8. (HM Stationery Office. 1952. 3s. 6d.)

General and detail interim description of a secondary modern school designed by the Development Group of the MOE to show combination of their ideas on school planning with one particular system of construction. A possible means of building more schools more quickly than by using traditional methods. (See also JOURNAL for Oct. 16 and Dec. 4 and subsequent articles.)

10.100 design: building types AUSTRALIAN CLIMATE

Designing Houses for Australian Climates. Bulletin No. 6. J. W. Drysdale. (Commonwealth Experimental Building Station. 1952. 5s.)

This supersedes Bulletin No. 3, 1947, and collects together the contents of various papers and the results of considerable research and experiment. The information given about desirable conditions and the means of obtaining them in the various types of climate found in Australia is clearly set out and should be of value to anyone designing for other similar climates. Recommendations on planning, type of construction, and insulation are given in relation to Hot Humid Zone, Hot Arid Zone and Temperate Zone climates.

11.30 materials : general LICHENS AND MOULDS

The Control of Lichens, Moulds and Similar Growths on Building Materials. BRS Digest No. 47. (HM Stationery Office. Oct., 1952. 3d.)

A general discussion of the effect of lichens and mould growths, except those which affect wood. Internal and external types are listed, together with notes on the conditions required for growth. The need for elimination of external growths varies but internal ones are an indication of dampness and the cause of this must be removed so far as possible before other treatment is given. The bulletin lists a number of toxic materials which may be applied to infected surfaces or incorporated in new decorations. Names and address of suppliers are given.

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11.31 materials : general BUILDING SCIENCE

Building Science, Materials, for Students of Architecture and Building, Vol. II. A. G. Geeson. (English University Press. 1952, 25s.)

This 390-pp. book deals at considerable length with traditional materials and in the last 60 pages something is said of plastics, glass, plasterboard, asbestos cement, bituminous materials, flooring materials and paints. Considerable emphasis is given to manufacture and methods of testing, with rather less information on choice and use than architects and builders may require.

15.106 materials: applied finishes and treatments **PAINTING**

Training the Painter of Tomorrow. Conference Report. (Association of Painting Craft Teachers. 1952.)

Report of Conference at Harrogate. Contains several papers of considerable general interest, including descriptions of newer types of paint, such as the emulsion paints and styrenated paints, and of developments, such as the roller method of application.

15.107 materials : applied finishes and treatments FELT ROOFING

Classification of Roofing Felts (Bitumen and Fluxed Pitch). BS 747:7952. (British Standards Institution. 4s.)

Description of several types of felt, with notes on manufacture and guidance as to which type to choose for various purposes.

Roofing felt is now very widely used and it is important, therefore, to be able to distinguish between the various types and to make a correct choice for use under varying conditions. This BS does not give methods of testing for quality, as it has not yet been found possible to do this, but it does give a classified list of types, with some notes on the materials from which they are made and a useful general note on the method of manufacture. Several types are classified under each of the following groups: bitumen felts (fibre felt); bitumen felts (asbestos base); fluxed pitch felts; impregnated flax felts.

In the notes on each kind there is a heading "Uses." Unfortunately, these notes do not help much in making a choice from the rather bewildering range. There is an appendix giving "Notes on the use of roofing felts" which is of some assistance but one still feels that a really clear guide to the sensible choice of roofing felts remains to be written. What a study of this BS does show, however, is the need for great care both when specifying and when comparing prices.

16.94 materials : miscellaneous

LIME

Building Limes. BRS Digest No. 46. (HMSO. Sept., 1952. 3d.)

While not giving any new information this Digest is a clear statement about types of lime and their characteristics, with some notes on preparation. The suitability of different types of lime for mixing with Portland cement is discussed. A useful summary.

23.164 heating: ventilation

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

Open Fires, Heating Stoves and Cookers Burning Solid Fuel. BS C of P 403(1952). (British Standards Institution. 7s.)

Final version of Code dealing with the selection and installation of domestic heating appliances, with recommendations on design of hearths, walls, throats, firebacks, etc. Advice on inspection, testing and maintenance. Some useful diagrams, but makers' larger scale drawings will also be required before adequate working details can be prepared to show the fixing of appliances.

23.165 heating: ventilation

HOUSE HEATING

House Heating and the Tenant, Experiments at Abbots Langley. Rosslyn Green and Elisabeth A. Milroy. (RIBA Journal. Sept., 1952.)

Report on tenant reaction to occupation of houses with various heating systems. Extremely interesting and well worth study.

The various reports which have already appeared on the Abbots Langley house heating experiment have made this large scale project familiar to all who study research on housing, but previous reports have dealt mainly with the heating characteristics—with ventilation, insulation, fuel consumption, etc. The article by Miss Milroy is different; it deals with "tenant reaction" and in doing so provides some valuable information.

For a complete understanding of the problem, Miss Milroy's article should be studied, but among the points which emerge are that tenants like open fires, that un-heated kitchens are unsatisfactory, that in wellinsulated houses bedrooms get surprisingly warm and only need heating in very cold weather or in case of illness.

insulated houses bedrooms get surprisingly warm and only need heating in very cold weather or in case of illness. The results of this survey show that families can be divided into three broad classes: those that are satisfied with sufficient warmth for sitting in the living room and only background warmth elsewhere: those that want sufficient warmth for sitting in the living room, for working in the kitchen and only background warmth elsewhere: those that want sufficient warmth for sitting in the living room and at least sufficient warmth for working in *all* other parts of the house. To satisfy these three sets of requirements economically different appliances are needed. It seems, therefore, that housing authorities should provide a variety of houses with different heating installations.

In the experiment, families were moved from one house to another; hence, there is a large amount of comparative data available. The article contains some interesting tables giving results of the investigation. It is certainly worth studying and it is to be hoped that housing managers, as well as architects, will become familiar with it.

24.160 lighting

FLUORESCENT LIGHTING

Fluorescent Lighting. Edited by C. Zwikker. (Philips Technical Library. 1952. 35s.)

Review of fluorescent lamps, accessories and fluorescent lighting practice, by a group of lighting specialists. 250 pp. 180 illustrations.

More than half of this comprehensive book is devoted to a very clear explanation, starting from first principles, of the working, components and operation of fluorescent lamps, mainly useful to the lighting engineer. The remainder of the book, chiefly the last 100 pages, the architect will find valuable, for in it is analysed the design of fittings. This part of the book contains 75 excellent photographs of fittings and lighting schemes. The practising architect will probably find these and the book's other illustrations of as much value as the text.

Trations of as much value as the text. The value of fluorescent lighting is overstressed or, more accurately, other sources of light are studiously ignored. (As the book TECHNICAL SECTION

is produced by a lighting manufacturer, the bias is perhaps understandable.) Thus, in the section on home lighting, the unpopularity so far of fluorescent lamps is attributed to their cold colour and large size; both factors, it is pointed out, which are now largely overcome. The truth of this is, of course, questionable and, in any case, it is doubtful whether fluorescent tubes will ever completely supplant filament lamps in the home, partly on grounds of cost and, partly, because bright point sources of light are necessary to produce the sparkle and liveliness so desirable in most home environments.

in most home environments. In the agricultural section, where the value of irradiating plants is discussed, the fluorescent lamp is solely recommended; no mention is made of sodium or mercury vapour lamps, which are likely to prove more popular because of their high light output per watt.

24.161 lighting

LIGHTING THEORY

Comfortable Lighting — Its Study and Realization. L. C. Kalff. (Trans. Illum. Eng. Soc. Vol. XVII, No. 8. 1952.)

An attempt by a Dutch architect to relate modern lighting theories to design.

This article indicates the way in which the attitude of lighting engineers to their subject has been changing during recent years. The importance of human reactions, not of measuring instruments, is emphasized and an analysis is made of visual behaviour in terms of the task, the immediate brightness, the background brightnesses and the centre of interest. The reasoning is applied to paintings—to Bellini's "Doge of Venice" and Rousseau's "Landscape"—and is extended to the design of a restaurant, a church, a shop window, and the interior of a store.

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THE INDUSTRY

From the Industry this week, Brian Grant reports on sliding doors, the exhibition of lighting fittings at the Building Centre and a new flame-retardant coating.

SLIDING DOOR GEAR

There are so many comparatively small items which go to make up a building that it is easy to take them for granted. From the architect's point of view this is perhaps as it should be, for nobody has the time or the knowledge to sit down and start designing everything from the very beginning. On the other hand, it leaves a good deal of work to be done by the manufacturer of almost any kind of equipment, and he must take pains to see that what he sends to the site is what is really wanted for the job, and is not merely a hopeful guess in reply to a loosely specified order.

to a loosely specified order. These thoughts are the result of a brief visit to Messrs. P. C. Henderson's works at Barking. As most readers will know, this firm makes sliding gear for almost every type of door, window or partition that has to slide or fold. Gear for doors which are to slide in a straight line is, of course, relatively simple, and need consist of no more than a wheeled hanger and an elementary form of track. But when doors are to slide round a corner there is the further complications of an extra movement in the hanger and the accurate curving of the track so that the trolley wheels do not bind. Add then the demand that the doors are also to fold and you complicate the problem of the hinges. Are the folds to be centre pivoted, to fold outwards, or to fold inwards? Is the track to be hung from the side of the lintol or from the soffit? Are the doors to slide in single-, double- or triple-lines? Each variation involves many different types of the same basic unit, with further variations according to the size and weight of the doors. From the consumer's point of view, Henderson's make the whole business of order-

From the consumer's point of View, Henderson's make the whole business of ordering comparatively simple by using a series of standardized questionnaires, in different colours for different types of gear, and provided you have the intelligence to answer simple questions and mark the type of installation required, you should receive all the necessary fittings and track, together with a set of full-size drawings and simple and clear fixing instructions to be handed to the man on the job. It is interesting to discover that something like 90 per cent. of the inquiries received by Messrs. Henderson are sent in on the standard questionnaire form, so it can be assumed that customers find it works well in practice. From an administrative point of view it is probably quite an expensive method, but if it makes certain that the right fittings are sent first time then it is worth while.

Going round the firm's stores one realises what a large number of different items are needed if any given set of conditions is to be met from stock, and also that the job cannot be done without intelligent storekeepers who don't leave out an essential item. The firm seems to have thought of all the conditions which are likely to arise on the job, and makes all the subsidiary fittings like flush pulls, bolts, handles, and the many other items, such as drainage sumps for the floor channels. All these fittings are set out clearly in the firm's lists, which are, in general, very informative, and provide all

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the information one is likely to want about such subjects as lubrication, materials and bearings for wheels, and the less usual fittings like mobile ladders hung from tracks and used for access to high shelving or files. Note also the "Parlour" gear for domestic sliding doors—only £2 per set for doors up to 3 ft. wide.

The firm issues an informative "Handy" Catalogue (No. 52), designed to provide useful data on the various type of gear in widest use; this also includes a "Handy" price list, of great assistance in compiling approximate estimates, and 60 standard full-size drawings. (P. C. Henderson Ltd., Tangent Works, Barking, Essex.)

LIGHTING FITTINGS

Open at the Building Centre until the 10th of this month is an excellent display of light fittings in current production. Most of the names, like Troughton & Young, Heal, Holman and Merchant Adventurers, are familiar enough, but Cone Fittings are a new firm to me. Only two of their designs are shown, but they are both reasonably priced wall fittings at 39s. and 42s. Admittedly there is not very much in either of them to cost money, but these prices are far nearer the amounts ordinary people feel like paying nowadays. If you don't mind going up to £15 or so there is plenty of choice from any number of firms, but I gather, on inquiry, that it is the policy of this firm to produce simple designs and sell them cheaply. Good luck to them, for it's certain that there's a large market all ready and waiting. The fitting shown in the photograph (right)

The fitting shown in the photograph (right) can go any way up, or at any angle. The shade is of a washable acetate. The height of the fitting can be adjusted by pressing the small release button on the wall. This allows the flex to be pulled through. There are rubber feet on the legs. (Cone Fittings, Ltd., 297. Mutton Lane, Potters Bar, Middlesex.)

FIRE-RESISTANT FINISHES

Albi-" R" is a fire-retardant coating material for use on combustible surfaces, such as wood, plywood, fibre insulation board, and acoustic tiles. Its function is principally air-exclusive; when exposed to flame or heat of over 300° F., it swells up to form an insulating mat which prevents the spread of fire beyond its point of origin and retards penetration and transmission of heat through the coated surface.

It may be used on walls, partitions, ceilings, beams, rafters, doors and insulating boards. If used on metals it considerably retards the penetration and transmission of heat to and through the coated surface. During a test, two identical panels of 24-gauge steel, one untreated, the other treated on one side with Albi-" R." were subjected to a flame of 1.733° F. Thermo-couples were placed against the backs of the panels directly opposite the flame. After 30 minutes the untreated panel recorded a temperature of 1.205° F., while the treated panel recorded only 383° F.

only 383° F. Under trial at the Elstree Fire Testing Station were samples of fibre insulating board, hardboard, Douglas fir plywood, Gaboon plywood and acoustic tiles; after $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes "no spread" was recorded on the insulating board, an average of $\frac{4}{5}$ in. on the Gaboon plywood, and an average of $\frac{4}{5}$ in. on the acoustic tiles. The final distance of spread of flame in each case was: insulating board, no spread; hardboard, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.; Douglas fir plywood, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.; Gaboon plywood, $3\frac{1}{5}$ in.; acoustic tiles, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Surface spread of flame is, of course, dependent on the weight of flame-retardant treatment applied—in these tests, the weight of application ranged from 14 to 50 grammes/sq. ft. The conclusion of the tests was that

TECHNICAL SECTION

Detail of drainage gulley for bottom track used by P. C. Henderson for their sliding doors.



Simple and inexpensive wall fitting on show at Building Centre. Position of fitting can be adjusted by pressing button on wall and allowing flex to slide through. (Cone Fittings Ltd.).

Albi-" R " flame retardant coating, when applied to the above materials in the quantities specified, gives a surface classified in Class I (very low flame spread).

The product was also tested by, among other organisations, the Danish State Testing Laboratories, in Copenhagen, who carried out their test in accordance with the terms of the International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea, 1948, and the Underwriters' Laboratories Inc. (National Board of Fire Underwriters) in USA. Albi-"R" is now under test by Government service departments for special applications. The material consists of various dry solids with a phosphate base; it is mixed with water for application and dries to a hard white non-chalking finish. Application can be by brush or spray, at 32 sq. yd./gall. for hardboard, plywood and timber. Tinting can be done, if required, with most non-reactive pigments, but it would probably be best to ask the manufacturers about this. There is no particular difficulty about preparing the surfaces before application.

before application. Thirty days after application, Albi-"R" can be cleaned with a damp cloth, but where excessive washing or condensation is expected an oil paint or lacquer can be applied as a finishing coat. (Albi-Willesden Ltd., Kensington Palace Mansions, De Vere Gardens, London, W.8.)

BRIAN GRANT

Announcements

The practice of the late C. Howard Crane, A.I.A., Architects & Engineers, at 7, Buckingham Gate, S.W.1, is being carried on as C. Howard Crane & Partners, Architects & Engineers, at the same address. The partners are Mr. M. R. Beckstrom, A.I.A. (USA), Mr. John B. Guise, A.R.I.B.A., and Mr. A. T. Davies, A.M.I.C.E.

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Mr. E. Farad Whitehead, A.R.I.B.A., has moved to 3, Fir Grove, New Malden, Surrey. Messrs. Westwood, Sons & Harrison have

Messrs. Westwood, Sons & Harrison have taken into partnership Mr. E. Gilbert Chapman, A.R.I.B.A., A.A.DIP. The name of the firm remains unchanged, and the practice will continue from 46, Baker Street, W.1. (Tel.: Wel 0694.)

Mr. Leonard Elliott, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.STRUCT.E., has moved his office to 15, Upper Grosvenor Street, W.1 (Tel.: MAYfair 0968-0969), where he will be pleased to receive trade literature.

Philip H. Herbert, A.R.I.B.A., has moved his office to 17, Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15 (Tel.: Edgbaston 3817), where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues.

G. A. Halse, A.R.I.B.A., has opened a private practice at The Hermitage, Vicarage Road, Sidmouth (Tel.: Sidmouth 464), where he will be pleased to receive catalogues and technical data.

Mr. J. Swindells, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.STRUCT.E., M.INST. WELDING, has been appointed chief engineer for Concrete Ltd. in the north of England.

The County Architects' Society has, for some months, been giving careful consideration to the activities of the London and other builders' conferences. The following resolution was passed recently at a meeting of the Society :—" This Society deprecates the activities of Builders' Conferences, and is pleased to note that the RIBA intend taking further action in this matter."

Buildings Illustrated

Mechanical Workshops at the Tar & Ammonia Products Works, Beckton, East Ham. London, E.16, for the North Thames Gas Board. (Pages 13-17.) Designers: Brian Colquhoun & Partners, Consulting Engi-neers. Chief Architect: A. H. Shearing, A.R.I.B.A. Resident engineer: G. D. Mc-Farlane. Quantity surveyors: Stanley Griffith & Partners. General contractors: Stanley Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd. Sub-contractors: dampcourses, George Callender & Co. Ltd.; asphalt, Rock Asphalte Co. Ltd.; facing bricks, High Brooms Brick & Tile. Co. Ltd., supplied by Wiggins-Sankey, Ltd.; structural steel, metalwork, Redpath Brown & Co. Ltd.; special roofings, Robertson Building Service; roofing felt, The Ruberoid Co.; partitions, Roneo Ltd.; patent glazing, Aygee Ltd. (vertical glazing), Faulkner Greene & Co. Ltd. (northlight glazing); woodblock flooring, National Flooring Co. Ltd.; patent flooring, Johnson Flooring Co. Ltd.; dome-lights and glass concrete con-struction, Lenscrete Ltd.; acoustic tiling, Horace W. Cullum Ltd.; painting, E. H. Bull & Son Ltd.; road finishing, General Asphalt Co. Ltd.; air compressor, Reavell & Co. Ltd., and Broom & Wade Co. Ltd.; vertical linings, Tentest Fibreboard Co. Ltd.; asbestos sheet-ing, W. M. Walker & Co. Ltd.; flush doors, Venetal Ltd.; averaded metal currelied but ing, W. M. Walker & Co. Ltd.; hush doors, Venesta Ltd.; expanded metal, supplied by R. Passmore & Co. Ltd.; concrete standards, Concrete Utilities Ltd.; pumps, Worthington-Simpson & Co. Ltd., and Pulsometer Ltd.; motors, Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto Co. Ltd.; starters, Allen West & Co. Ltd.; pipe-work, Stewarts and Lloyds Ltd., and Clay Cross Co. Ltd.; fans, Keith Blackman Co. Ltd., and Matthews & Yeates Ltd.; lighting Ltd., and Matthews & Yeates Ltd.; lighting fittings, Simplex Electric Co. Ltd., Electric Depot Ltd., Ediswan Ltd., Troughton & Young Ltd., Walsall Conduits Ltd., General Electric Co. Ltd., The Benjamin Electric Ltd., and Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co.; switchgear, William White (Switchgear) Ltd.; cables, Craig Park Cable Co. Ltd., and W. T. Glover & Co. Ltd.; unit heaters and panels, Copperad Ltd.; air washer, Drum-

mond Patent (Holdings) Ltd.; calorifiers, Rother Boiler Co. Ltd.; gas fixtures (mains) North Thames Gas Board; electric wiring, Barlow & Young Ltd.; ventilation, Benham & Sons. Ltd.; plumbing, Stitson, White & Co. Ltd.; sanitary fittings, John Bolding & Sons Ltd.; door furniture, Alfred G. Roberts Ltd.; casements, Mellowes & Co. Ltd.; rolling shutters, Haskins; joinery, P. H. Barker & Son Ltd.; tiles, Carter & Co. (London) Ltd.; cranes, John Smith (Keighley) Ltd.; clocks, Gents Ltd.; paint, W. & J. Leigh & Co. Ltd.; asbestos sheeting, Universal Asbestos Co. Ltd.;

Housing for the Sunbury-on-Thames UDC in Beechwood Avenue, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex. (Pages 18-20). Architect: Basil Spence & Partners. Quantity surveyors: B. M. Kimber, F.R.I.C.S. General contractors: three blocks of flats, Co-Partners Building Operatives Ltd.; Old people's dwellings, Messrs. C. & S. Telling, A. E. Hopkins & Son; two-storey dwellings, C. & S. Telling, A. E. Hopkins & Son, Henry Day (Merton) Ltd., Gamblin & Son Ltd. Sub-contractors: bricks, Uxbridge Flint Brick Co. Ltd., base course and common flettons; special roofings, Hugh Twaddle & Son Ltd.; patent flooring, Durable Asphalte Co. Ltd.; lectric wiring, Thames Gas Board; fires and grates, Ideal Boiler & Radiator Co. Ltd.; electric wiring, T. Adams & Co. Ltd.; suppliers of Royal Doulton fittings; door furniture, Nettlefold & Moser Ltd.; will Manufacturing Co. Ltd.; joinery, John D. Austin (Ilford) Ltd.; mantels, H. & C. Davis & Co. Ltd.





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G. E. SMITH, *Town Clerk.* West Ham Town Hall, Stratford, E.15. 7895

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL. Applications are invited from qualified ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS for posts in the under-mentioned grades on the staff of the County Architect :---A.P.T., Grade VIII-(£760-£335 p.a.). A.P.T. Grade VII-(£760-£335 p.a.). A.P.T. Grade VII-(£670-£335 p.a.). The posts offer scope for initiative and enthusiasm. Applicants should preferably have heen trained at a recognised School of Architecture.

enthusiasm. Applicants should preferably have been trained at a recognised School of Architecture. The appointments are superannuable and sub-ject to medical examination. A weekly allowance of 25s, and return fare home once every two months may be paid for six months to newly appointed married officers of the Council unable to find accommodation. Further particulars and form of application may be obtained from the County Architect, County Offices. Aylesbury, to whom applications must be delivered by 10th January, 1953. 7910

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES. DRAUGHTSMAN required by the Government of Tancanyika for the Surveys and Town Plan-ning Department for one tour of two to three years in the first instance. The appointment will be on probation for permanent and pensionable employment. Salary (including present temporary allowance of 25 per cent.) in scale (male) £837 to £1.650 a year. (female) £657 to £840 a year. Outfit allowance up to £45. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Local Government Superannation rights can be preserved. Candi-dates must have had experience as a Drauchtsman or Engineering Assistant in a Municipal Engineer's office or the office of a Town Planning Authority, and must be able to develop detailed and finished drawings from preliminary sketches. Female candidates must be single. Apply at once by letter, stating age, full names in block letters, and full particulars of qualifications and experi-ence, and mentioning this paper to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Milbank. London, SW.1, quoting on letter M.29744.D. The Crown Agents selected for further consideration. 7935

COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROTHERHAM. APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT GRADE V. Applications are invited for the above appoint-ment in the Architect's Department in the office of E. J. Manson, B.Eng. A.M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer, at a salary in accordance with Grade V of the A.P.T. Division of Scales £595-2645. Applications must be Registered Architects and Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects and preference will be given to those having previous experience in the design of school buildings. Applications, to be endorsed Architectural Assistant, stating age, qualifications and details of experience, together with names of two referees, should be received by me to later than 12th January, 1953. Canvassing will disqualify. Town Clerk.. Municipal Offices, Rotherham. 7006

Canvassing and Municipal Offices, Rotherham. Town Uters. Offices, Rotherham. Town Uters. Offices, Rotherham. SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the appointment of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary: 4475 to 6575 per annum, according to qualifications and experience. Form of application and Conditions of Appoint-ment may be obtained from the undersigned. H. PICKBOURNE, Registrar. 7921

CITY OF NOTTINGHAM. HOUSING ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the following appointments with N.J.C. Service conditions:— (1) CHIEF ASSISTANT QUANTITY SUR-VEYOR. Salary: e315-4935. Applicants should preferably have passed the Final Examination of the R.I.C.S. (Quantities Sub-Division), and be capable of taking charge of the Quantity Surveyors' section dealing with large scale housing developments, including multi-storey buildings.

 Iarge scale noising terministic storey buildings.
 ARCHITECT.

 (2) JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.
 ARCHITECT.

 Salary: £465-£600, according to qualifications and
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Hary: 100-100, and preferably have passed the Applicants should preferably have passed the itermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A. Applications, stating age, qualifications, experi-ice, present appointment and salary, naming two ferees, to C. A. Pilkington, Housing Architect, he Guildhall, Nottingham, before 17th January, 7918

The Guildhail, Nottingham, before 17th January. 1953. 7018 CARSHALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL. Applications are invited for the appointment of a TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT in the Engi-neer and Surveyor's Department, at a salary in accordance with Grades A.P.T. V-VI. of the National Scales (£595-£735), plus London "weighting." The commencing salary will be fixed according to qualifications and experience. Application and administration of the Town and Country Planning Acts and hold the Final Examination Certificate of the Town Planning Institute, and preferably, in addition, hold either are appointment will be subject to (a) the pro-visions of the National Scheme of Conditions of Service, (b) the passing of a medical examination for superannuation purposes, and (c) one month's solice on either side. The Council cannot provide the successful applications, on forms to be obtained from the andersigned, must be returned, together with the names of three referes, not later than Wednesday, the 14h January, 1953. Canvassing in any form will be a disqualifica-tion. C. H. DURRANT.

tion.

tion. C. H. DURRANT. Clerk of the Council. District Council Offices. The Grove, Carshalton, Surrey. 7920

District Council Offices. The Grove, 7920 COUNTY BOROUGH OF DERRY. Applications are invited for the following appointments on the permanent staff, in accord-ance with the National Scale of Salaries.— (a) ONE CLERK OF WORKS. Grade III. 625-650. Commencing salary: 4525 per annum. Anlicants should have a sound knowledge of al building trades. (b) ONE JUNIOR OUANTITY SURVEYOR. Grade III. 466-6540. Commencing salary: 636 per annum. Applicants should have passed the R.I.C.S. First and be experienced in working up bills of quanti-ticants should have passed the R.I.C.S. First and be experienced in working up bills of quanti-ticants should have passed the R.I.C.S. First and be experienced in working up bills of quanti-ticants should have passed the R.I.C.S. First and be experienced in working up bills of quanti-ticants and the provisions of the Local fue and the main and the provisions of the Local fue can annum. The appoint and the provisions of the Local fue and the annue of those. Corro-ditions of Service and the provisions of the Local fue and the manes of two persons to whom worker, Derby, and should be returned when the Architect, The Council House. Corro-tion Stretter, Derby, and should be returned when the main the sould be returned when the main the start and the provisions of the the the successful anniher. The determents will be start and the pro-term of application. The start and the manes of two persons to whom and and the manes of two persons to whom and and the manes of two persons to whom and the start and the particle, will be a monial and the manes of two persons to whom and and the manes of two persons to whom and and the manes of two persons to whom and and the manes of two persons to whom and and the manes of two persons to whom and and the manes of two persons to whom and the persons to and the persons to whom and the persons to and the persons to whom and the persons to and the persons to whom and the persons to and the persons to whom anon the stermed the and the manes of two persons to w

E. H. NICHOLS.

Town Clerk

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF ABERDEEN. COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the post of ASSIS-TANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR in the County Architect's Department. The salary scale for the appointment is 4460 to 2555 per annum. Placing on the scale may be granted according to quali-fications and experience.

appointment is £460 to 2000 p. on the scale may be granted according to quan-fications and experience. Candidates should have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Royal Institute of Chartered surveyors (Quantities Division). The appointment is subject to the Local Govern-ment Superannuation (Scotland) Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will require to pass a medical examination. Torms of application are obtainable from the undersigned, and should be returned not later than 16th January, 1955. Canvassing of members of the Council, directly or indirectly, in connection with this appointment shall disqualify the candidate. Cuanty Clerk. Cuanty Clerk.

22. Union Terrace, Aberdeen. 18th December, 1952. 7922

CHESTERFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL. ENGINEER AND SURVEY'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the following appointments:-

appointments:— (a) ASSISTANT ENGINEER (CAPITAL WORKS), Grade A.P.T., VIII, Salary scale: 2760-2835, Candidates must be Corporate Members of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and must have had considerable experience in the design and construction of sewerage and sewage disposal schemes

have had considerable experience in the design and construction of sewerage and sewage disposal schemes. (b) SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT. Grade A.P.T., VI. Salary scale: £670-4735. Candidates must be Registered Architects, and must have had considerable experience in housing site layouts, house and shop design. The appointment will be subject to the Scheme and Conditions of Service for Local Authorities, and to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act. 1937, and will be terminated by one month's notice on either side. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination. The Council will give all possible assistance tobtained from the Engineer and Saltergate. Applications should be made on forms to be obtained from the Engineer and Saltergate, Chesterfield, and must be returned to the under-signed not later than Friday. 16th January, 1953. man envelope suitably endorsed. Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will dis-qualify. H. O. HAWKINS.

H. O. HAWKINS. Clerk to the Council.

Rural Council House, Saltergate, Chesterfield.

BOROUGH OF MANSFIELD. APPOINTMENT OF THIRD ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Applications are invited from Registered Archi-tects for the above appointment in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department. The salary will be in accordance with A.P.T., V. of the National Joint Council's Scale, and the following conditions:-

National Joint Council's Scale, and the following conditions:— (1) N.J.C. Conditions of Service. (2) Superannation Act. 1937, for which purpose the selected candidate will be required to pass a medical examination. (3) Residence within the Borough. Applications, stating age, qualifications, present appointment and salary, previous appointments and experience, together with copies of not more than three testimonials, should be sent to the undersigned endorsed "Third Architectural Assis-tant," not later than Monday, the 12th of January, 1953. A. C. SHEPHERD.

A. C. SHEPHERD. Town Clerk.

7937

Carr Bank, Mansfield. 15th December, 1952

lix

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ESTON. APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSIS-TANT, GRADE A.P.T., Va. 6625-6665. Applications are invited for the above appoint-

ment

Applications are invited for the above appointment. Applicants should have experience in housing work, and preference will be given to candidates with an Architectural qualification. The Conditions of Service are those formulated by the National Joint Council, and the appoint-ment is subject to the passing of a medical ex-amination and the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. Housing accommodation will be made available if required. Applications, giving full details of training, qualifications and experience, together with copies of two recent testimonials, should be sent to me by the 13th January, 1953. N. C. HARRISON, A.M.I.C.E., M.M.M.E. Engineer and Surveyor's Department. Normanby Road, South Bank, Middlesbrough. 24th December, 1952. 7959

ISLE OF MAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD. SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT. Applications are invited for the above appoint-ment in the department of the Architect and Planning Officer, at a salary of 2595-2650. The appointment is subject to the Local Govern-ment Superannuation Act, 1937. A three-bedroom house is available for an annual rental of 2101 10s. Applications, stating age, qualifications, present and past employment and experience, present salary, and the names of three referees, should be sent to Douglas Calder, A.R.L.B.A.A.M.T.P.L. Architect and Planning Officer to the Isle of Man local Government Board, Murray House, Douglas, to arrive not later than Thursday, 15th January, 1953. W. H. KARRAN.

W. H. KARRAN

6, Mount Havelock, Douglas, Isle of Man. 7941

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL DEPUTY COUNTY ARCHITECT. Applications are invited from Members of the Boyal Institute of British Architects for the appointment of Deputy County Architect. The salary will be £1.050 per annum, rising by annual increments of £50 to a maximum of £1.250. The appointment will be terminable by three months' notice on either side. The supointment will be terminable by three months' notice on either side. The successful applicant will be required to provide a motor car, in respect of which mileage allowances will be paid in accordance with the Council's scales. Applicants must disclose in writing whether to their knowledge they are related to any member or senior officer of the Council. Canvassing will disquality.

disqualify

disqualify. Applications, stating age, qualifications and ex-perience, and particulars of present and previous appointments. together with the mames and addresses of three persons to whom reference can be made, must reach me not later than the first post on the 21st January, 1953. T. STEPHENSON, Clerk of the Council. County Hall. Beverley.

County Hall, Beverley 24th December, 1952.

Architectural Appointments Vacant 4 lines or under, 7s. 6d.; each additional line, 2s.

⁴ times or under, is. Oa.; each additional time, 28. The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through a Local Office of the Ministry of Labour or a Scheduled Employment Agency if the applicant is a man aged 18-64 inclusive or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive unless he or she, or the employment, is excepted from the provisions of the Notification of Vacancies Order, 1952.

JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, male or female, Intermediate standard, required for general private practice in Westminster. Reply stating age, experience and salary required to Box 7896.

A RCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required up to R.I.B.A. Final standard, having had office experience in preparing in scale drawings, b in. details, specifications and supervision for general practice. Write stating full particulars and salary required to Hox 7900.

A SSISTANT required in small but busy office in West End of London. R.I.B.A. Inter-mediate standard. Salary according to experience. Write Box 7888.

A RCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, of at least Intermediate standard, or fully qualified, required. Neat and good draughtsmanship. Applicants interested in contemporary design to apply in writing, stating age, qualifications, ex-perience, and salary expected, to E. C. Kent, F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.L., 6, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1. 7928

A SSISTANT required, with several years' office experience, for private practice. Must be able to handle contracts without supervision, and be willing to undertake short spells in West Africa. Apply to Box 7917.

QUALIFIED SENIOR ARCHITECT'S ASSIS-TANT required immediately. Interest in contemporary design essential, and experience of industrial and hospital work. Permanent post for suitable applicant. Apply in writing to E, R. Collister, A.A.Dipl, A.R.I.B.A., 67, London Road, Chelmsford, Essex. 7916

A RCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required. Qualified, with 2 or 3 years' experience in private office. Apply Quiggin & Gee, 11, Old Haul Street, Liverpool. 7925

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Watford 6256. 7927 SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT re-quired for Provincial office; established 50 years. Future prospects. Eighteen miles from London, electric train service. State experience and salary required. Box 7932. JUNIOR ASSISTANT, able to type, for small office, London, W.C.1. State age and salary required. Box 7929.

A PPOINTMENT as ARCHITECT in private practice in established firm in Rhodesia. Applicant must be Associate Member of the R.I.B.A., with considerable experience of all classes of architecture, and must be completely familiar with the management of an Architect's office, as he will take charge of the branch office. Further particulars apply P.O. Box 7931. SELFRIDGES, LTD., have a vacancy on the staff of the House Architect for an experi-enced STORE FITTING DRAUGHTSMAN. Apply, stailing age, experience, and salary re-quired. to: House Architect, Selfridges, Ltd., Oxford Street, W.1. 7943

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